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In Parts of Bosnia, No Letup in 'Cleansing'

By John Pomfret
Washington Post Service

GASINCI, Croatia — Ismet Hrustanovic had an inkling something was going on in his backyard. The engine's puppy started yelping. Twigs and leaves crunched under the heavy feet of men in boots.

Next, a fusillade exploded into his two-story house. One bullet passed through his nose, into his eye socket and out near his ear. Another boomed into his wife's ankle. Several more punched holes in the wall near his 10-year-old son. A final blast killed the puppy.

This was how Mr. Hrustanovic, a Muslim, spent Jan. 31 — hunkered down with a bleeding face while his wife writhed in pain in their modest house in the Serbian-held Banja Luka region of Bosnia. Last Wednesday, they were

evacuated from the region by the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

By the time they abandoned their home in the village of Mrkonjic, a Serbian family had already occupied the first floor.

Despite progress toward peace in Bosnia, "ethnic cleansing" continues throughout the 70 percent of the country controlled by Serbs. In recent weeks, it has risen again in the northwestern Bosnian region of Banja Luka, the site of some of the fiercest cleansing by Serbian forces when Bosnia's war began in 1992.

According to United Nations estimates, there are about 1 million people in the Banja Luka region, including 50,000 Muslims and about 27,000 Croats. When the war began, as many as 250,000 Muslims lived in the region.

Interviews in this refugee camp in eastern Croatia with UN officials and with Muslim and Croatian victims of Serbian oppression indicate that, regardless of international condemnation, the Serbs' efforts to drive out minority groups continue unabated. Serbian guarantees that if peace comes to Bosnia the more than 1 million refugees forced from their homes will be assured a safe return appear increasingly hollow,

officials from the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said.

In recent weeks, UN officials in the Banja Luka region, the site of the biggest Serb-held city and the only airport in the self-proclaimed Bosnian Serbian Republic, have reported marked increase in rapes of Muslim and Croatian women, unsolved and uninvestigated murders and beatings of minorities, drive-by

shootings, dynamiting of houses, looting and mutilations, according to John Bialerstedt, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees' chief protection officer for Yugoslavia and its former republics.

Last week in Seher, a Banja Luka suburb, a Croatian woman was grabbed from the street in broad daylight and raped by a gang of Serbian men, Mr. Bialerstedt said. Several days earlier, he said, an elderly Croatian woman was attacked in the city center by an assailant who cut off her ears and poked out her eyes.

"We are seeing a pattern of atrocities, and it is getting worse," he said. "Our only solution in this case is to move people out of the area. Hundreds of people's lives are at stake."

Adina, 19, said she was raped on March 8 by

See BOSNIA, Page 5



CLASH IN SOUTH AFRICA — A soldier holding a man on the ground during a violent episode Sunday near Durban. Meanwhile, the campaign arrived in Sharpeville. Page 4.

Kiosk

Balladur to Review Minimum Wage Plan

Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, saying his conservative coalition gained a vote of confidence Sunday in local elections, hinted that he might modify a controversial plan to lower the minimum wage for young people.

Mr. Balladur conceded that the law allowing employers to pay workers under 25 less than the minimum wage on short-term training contracts "is seen as displaying a lack of attention for the young."

He said he would try to open a dialogue in the next few days to deal with "an appeal from the young," recently expressed in large and sometimes violent demonstrations. (Page 2)

Chinese Rely on Ultimate Penalty: Death

By Lena H. Sun
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — The sign outside reads "Beijing Supreme People's Court Project 36." But the innocuous name masks its real purpose. Behind the brick-and-barbed-wire walls lies the execution ground for those condemned to die in Beijing.

Prisoners are driven up the sandy path to this isolated compound on a thorn-covered hill overlooking the capital. Under the open sky, the prisoners, arms tied behind their backs, their legs in shackles, kneel on the black earth. At the signal, a paramilitary soldier fires a single rifle shot. It is usually to the back of the head. The prisoner topples into the dirt. Death is almost always immediate.

Sometimes, the corpses are put into a waiting ambulance to be taken to a hospital where organs are removed for transplant. Often, the organs are removed without previous consent of the prisoner, according to former prisoner witnesses and human-rights groups.

In some cases, the prisoner's family is even billed for the bullet — the equivalent of about 6 cents. "If you don't pay, they won't give you the ashes," said one former detainee.

The world's most populous country also has the largest death-row population. In 1992, China, which accounts for 22 percent of humanity, executed at least 1,079 prisoners, representing 63 percent of the world's executions, according to Amnesty International.

Last year, the number of executions rose to 1,411, according to Amnesty — an average of nearly four executions a day. Because China keeps the total secret, rights groups estimate that the true figure is much higher.

China's increasing reliance on the death penalty reflects societal turmoil. Amid economic success, corruption is at a record high. Even though the crime rate is far below that of the United States, it has been growing fast.

Police foot patrols are in place in major cities, like Beijing and Shanghai, for the first time in years. Violent crime was up 17.5 percent in the first 10 months of last year.

While the attention to rights practices is increasing in the debate linking human-rights improvements to Washington's granting of low-tariff trade status, pressure by international human-rights groups to limit China's use of capital punishment is not likely to change things.

Authorities have especially turned to capital punishment for economic crimes that do not involve violence, according to rights groups. In other countries, similar crimes would be punished.

See CHINA, Page 5

India Rebuffs New U.S. Move To Cap Nuclear Arms Arsenal

By John F. Burns
New York Times Service

NEW DELHI — A new attempt by the United States to prevent a nuclear arms race between India and Pakistan has been rebuffed by India, which responded to initial discussion of the American proposals by saying that it would not accept the capping of its arsenal in a reciprocal deal with Pakistan.

After meetings with Robin Raphael, the assistant secretary of state for South Asia, senior officials said India opposed any agreement to halt production or deployment of nuclear weapons if the agreement was limited to India and Pakistan.

The officials said India favored steps to limit and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons, but only if the major nuclear powers, including the United States, undertook to accept similar restraints.

They also warned that India would oppose another element in the American effort to freeze the nuclear arsenals of India and Pakistan, a possible deal with Pakistan under

which the United States would deliver F-16 jet fighters in return for Pakistan's acceptance of a verifiable ban on further production of nuclear weapons.

Administration officials have said that as part of the bid to cap the two nations' nuclear arsenals they might ask Congress to approve an exception to a United States arms embargo on Pakistan that would allow the delivery of 38 of more than 70 F-16s that Pakistan ordered before the arms embargo took effect in 1990.

In return, Pakistan would have to accept international inspection of its nuclear plants, including monitoring to insure that no nuclear materials were being diverted for use in nuclear weapons.

Foreign Minister Krishnamoorthy of India was said to have told Ms. Raphael that "any accretion of Pakistan's offensive military capability would escalate tensions in the region and seriously affect India's security environment."

By Ruth Marcus
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A senior White House official inquired last month about removing a prominent Republican hired by Resolution Trust Corp. to investigate claims arising from the failure of Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan, according to sources familiar with the discussions.

The sources said two senior White House officials, George Stephanopoulos and Harold Ickes, were alarmed and outraged when they discovered in late February that Resolution Trust, an independent regulatory agency, had hired Jay B. Stephens to handle possible civil suits growing out of the savings and loan fiasco.

Mr. Stephens severely criticized the Clinton

EU Ministers Offer Take-It-or-Leave-It Voting Plan to U.K.

By Tom Buerk
International Herald Tribune

bostage to the political pressures of its most recalcitrant members.

"The whole Union has been embarrassed and frustrated by the delays over the enlargement process," said Dick Spring, the Irish foreign minister.

The voting compromise put forward by Theodoros Pangalos, Greece's European affairs minister, was a classic EU fudge, satisfying almost no one but vague enough to allow everyone to interpret it in the best light. Mr. Delors called it at once "ambiguous" and "ingenious."

With the addition of the four new members, the plan would increase the majority needed to block EU legislation to 27 votes (three large states or two large ones and two or three small ones) from the current 23 votes (two large and one small country). On issues where a minority of 23 to 26 votes was opposed, the Union would delay a decision for a "reasonable" period and seek a compromise.

Countries like France, Belgium and the Netherlands wanted to specify a delay of no more than three months to prevent the Union's decision-making capacity from seizing up, but all agreed that a "reasonable" delay could not be indefinite, as Britain had sought. "Absolutely not," said Niels Helveg Petersen, the Danish foreign minister.

If people set out to obstruct, that would not be in the spirit of compromise," Mr. Spring said. If a delay goes on too long, Mr. Spring said, any member state could move to terminate the delay by enlisting the support of seven of the 12 EU members, and then vote down the obstructing immorality.

But such power plays, though legally possible, are political dynamite in the Union and have never been attempted.

Mr. Delors reserved judgment on the plan, which needs the approval of the European Commission when it meets on Tuesday. He said he wanted to be sure the declaration was not

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Will Appetite for Success Cause Hunger in China?

By Patrick E. Tyler
New York Times Service

Huge aqueducts, dry until planting season, arched across the mountainous terrain to the Yellow River, whose spring flood will render this barren landscape a verdant plain of productive agriculture.

It is a plain of victory in a war that is being lost. The gains here are being dwarfed by losses elsewhere and by the unrelenting press of China's population growth.

A Princeton University scholar, Perry Link, observed last year that a 10 percent reduction in China's rice harvest of 190 million tons in 1990 could not have been covered by the 12 million tons of surplus rice on the international market that year.

It has been 30 years since 20 million to 40 million Chinese died in what may have been the greatest famine in history, induced by agricultural policies of Mao Zedong.

China today is hardly facing famine. The country recorded a bumper grain harvest in 1993. But bumper crops will have to grow ever larger, as arable land declines, to feed the swelling population.

The remarkable achievements of Chinese agriculture, one of the great successes of the Communists, stand on an ever-weakening foundation of natural resources.

Scientists say the pressure on rural China's intricate tapestry of rice paddy landscapes and wheat field terraces has increased enormously since the Communist takeover in 1949. Since then, the population has doubled to 1.2 billion, and since the late 1950s the amount of arable land has been reduced by half.

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White House Tried to Affect S&L Probe

By Ruth Marcus
Washington Post Service

administration after he was fired as U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia in March 1993. The White House apparently dropped the subject of reversing the hiring of Mr. Stephens after being told by the deputy Treasury secretary, Roger C. Altman, and the Treasury chief of

Representative Jim Leach can't produce alleged tape of phone conversation. Page 3.

staff, Joshua Steiner, that there was nothing to be done about it.

But the effort to find out whether Mr. Stephens could be replaced represents the first time the White House has been shown to have actively attempted to affect the handling of the politically sensitive investigation. One area of the civil investigation concerns the potential

liability of the Rose Law Firm, in which Hillary Rodham Clinton was once a partner, for its representation of Madison.

The White House counsel, Lloyd N. Cutler, warned Saturday against exaggerating the significance of the conversations.

In a statement, Mr. Cutler said it was "perfectly natural" that White House officials would be "surprised" by the appointment of Mr. Stephens. He said he did not know all the facts because Robert B. Fiske Jr., the White House special counsel, had asked the White House not to interview the witnesses while he was conducting his investigation.

"What I do know is that Mr. Stephens was an outspoken political opponent of the president," Mr. Cutler said. "and it was perfectly natural

See PROBE, Page 4

Larry King, CNN's Kingmaker, Live and Suspended for Posterity

By Maureen Dowd
New York Times Service

sports memorabilia." (The whereabouts of the garters that held up FDR's socks at Yalta, by contrast, is unknown.)

Suspended animation is how you might describe King's journalistic style. And the television host, who is really the maître d' of national politics (and seats only the best tables) is not guilty of false modesty.

"Clinton told me the night of the NAFTA vote, 'I owe you big time,'" King confides in a voice that carries through Duke Zeiger's restaurant, where we are at his usual table, spread with the usual bagels, butter substitute and lox. "I told the president, 'All I did was ask questions.'

He is less hunched over than I expected him to be. On his show, the hunch denotes solidarity

with his guests, and an attitude of confidential intimacy. And a kind of ordinariness, which is King's schtick.

Larry King has no aspiration to Edward R. Murrowhood. His idols are Red Barber, Arthur Godfrey and Bob and Ray. He has mastered the art of being small. I am a microphone, he says.

"I never use the word 'I' in interviews," he says. "I am your interlocutor." He does only ask questions, and they are not especially taxing ones. And yet he wound up in the kingmaking role, pleasing his guests, evaporating journalists everywhere.

As the dust jacket of his latest book, "On the Line: The New Road to the White House," modestly asks: "What was a baseball-loving

professor of journalism would call adversarial. He is the resort area of American journalism, the media's Palm Springs, where politicians and other figures of controversy or celebrity can go to unwind, kick back and reflect on what a wacky and wonderful trip it has been. He is a master of verbal amenities.

King doesn't consider himself a journalist, which is just as well since he flourishes in an age of nonjournalistic journalism. Thus politicians, or mock politicians, like Hugh Rodham, the first lady's brother, who is running for the Senate in Florida, angle to announce their candidates on King's show. Ross Perot wants to come back on and have another nervous break-

See KING, Page 4

ITALIANS VOTE — Mino Martinazzoli, leader of the Popular Party, voting in Italy's election in Brescia. Page 2.

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Newsstand Prices

Andorra	9.00 FF	Luxembourg	60 L.
Antilles	11.20 FF	Morocco	12 Dh
Cameroon	1,400 CFA	Qatar	8.00 Rials
Egypt	E.P. 5,000	Reunion	7.00 FF
France	9.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	7.00 R.
Gabon	960 CFA	Senegal	.960 CFA
Greece	300 Dr.	Tunisia	1.00 Din
Ivory Coast	1,120 CFA	Turkey	15.00
Jordan	1 JD	U.A.E.	.85 Dirh
Lebanon	US\$ 1.50	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	\$1.10

Q & A: Ex-Leader Says Chile Looks to 'Potential of Asia'

Many Latin American countries are joining East Asian nations on the rapid economic growth track. At a recent meeting in Kuala Lumpur of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council, Patricio Aylwin, who stepped down this month after a four-year term as president of Chile, discussed prospects for economic integration in the Pacific and Western Hemisphere with Michael Richardson of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. Why is Chile growing faster than most other Latin American countries?

A. Chile started opening its economy before the other countries of Latin America. We have consensus between the government, business community and workers on the need for such a policy. We have a dynamic and youthful entrepreneurial class. We also have political stability.

However, we must not become complacent or inward-looking. We know that other Latin American countries are following similar open market policies. Some of them have greater potential than ours because of their rich natural resources and larger domestic markets.

Q. Your policy sounds a bit like the East Asian formula for growth and expansion. Is Chile looking westward across the Pacific for future trade and investment?

A. Historically, although Chile faces the Pacific, its trade was concentrated on the American continent and Europe. Asia was largely unknown and there was hardly any economic interaction. In recent years, however, we have discovered the potential of Asia.

Today we have one third of our trade with Europe, one third with the Americas and one third with Asia. That is why Chile, along with Mexico, recently joined the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum.

Q. As Chile and other Latin American economies grow, won't they become a competitive threat to East Asia?

A. We have very different natural resources. Essentially our economies are complementary, not competitive. So both sides of the Pacific will benefit from an increasingly free flow of trade and investment.

Q. Latin America has a plethora of free trade areas, customs unions and other economic arrangements linking different countries of the region. Is it possible to harmonize them so that a powerful Latin American economic bloc emerges?

A. That is the great challenge for Latin America. It will take time. The idea of a region-wide agreement runs into the reality of different national economies at different levels of development.

Nonetheless, there is today a greater similarity between the economic and political regimes of Latin American countries than there was before. The formation of the Latin American Integration Association with the participation of Mexico and all South American nations has been a very important development in the process of linking regional economies.

Other groupings are also moving toward the same objective. It is like a fabric being knitted in different parts. Eventually it will become one piece.

Q. Will Latin America become the southern tier of the North American Free Trade Area between Canada, the United States and Mexico?

A. No one wants to be a tail end of NAFTA. What we hope is that the economic integration of Latin America will make it a complementary partner.

Chile wants a bilateral free trade agreement with the United States in the context of open regionalism. We do not think that our integration into the Americas should prevent us increasing our links with Asia, or Europe if possible.

Q. Isn't NAFTA a protectionist grouping?

A. We know that there are dangerous neo-protectionist trends in industrialized nations. However, I see no sign that NAFTA is a closed bloc. It was not designed to exclude other nations.

Chile already has a bilateral free trade agreement with Mexico. We are aiming for a similar arrangement with the United States in the next couple of years, and then with Canada.

Balladur to Meet Youths To Review Wage Plan

Reuters

PARIS — Prime Minister Edouard Balladur of France, claiming a vote of confidence in local elections, hinted Sunday that he may back down on a controversial law cutting wages for young people in job training.

Speaking on television after polls closed, Mr. Balladur conceded that the law allowing employers to pay workers under 25 less than the minimum wage on short-term training contracts was "seen as doing a lack of attention for the young."

"So it is my responsibility and my duty as head of government, responsible for social and national cohesion, to respond to what is an appeal from the young," he said.

Hundreds of thousands of high school and university students have held sometimes violent demonstrations in the last three weeks to demand the scrapping of the law, which many feel deviated and insulted them.

Mr. Balladur, a conservative, stopped short of saying he would withdraw the law or suspend its application, as the newspaper Le Monde reported he was considering. He said he would open a dia-

logue with young people in the next few days to look for possible solutions.

The second round of cantonal elections failed to produce the expected swing to the right despite the center-right coalition's strong showing in the March 20 first round with 44.7 percent.

The coalition captured only one of metropolitan France's 95 administrative departments from leftist parties, the central Creuse district, and lost one, the Dordogne in the southwest. It also lost the Indian Ocean island of Réunion to the left.

As a result, the rightist coalition will still control 75 of the 95 metropolitan departments and the left, 20.

The opposition Socialists, swept from power in last year's general election, staged a minor recovery March 20, winning 28.7 percent of the vote.

Some 58 percent of the 14 million eligible voters cast ballots Sunday to elect members of local councils in the 1,372 districts where there was no outright winner in the first round.

Some commentators said election success would strengthen Mr. Balladur's hand in his confrontation with the students. Others said it could allow him to back down without losing face.

just ask the butler...

Horace Powers

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FAR FROM HOME — A protester flashing a victory sign as policemen in Mannheim, Germany, removed him from a banned rally, called by the Kurdish Workers Party to mourn two women who fatally burned themselves to protest German arms sale to Turkey.

Synagogue Arson Casts Pall on Passover

Reuters

BONN — Lübeck's tiny Jewish community of 27 began Passover celebrations on Sunday as commentators criticized a far-right leader who said Germany's Jewish leader was to blame for racial hatred.

The police and shocked residents of the northern port, after an overnight vigil, stood guard at the city's fire-bombed synagogue, target of the first such arson attack on a synagogue in Germany since the days of the Third Reich.

German newspapers urged the government to act against Franz Schönhuber, leader of the far-right Republican Party, who said Ignatz Bubis, head of the Central Council of Jews, was inciting hatred by attacking rightist parties of being the "spiritual arsonists" behind the Lübeck attack early Friday.

"Schönhuber has again taken off his mask and shown his true face," said the local newspaper Lübecker Nachrichten. "Now the time really is ripe for the protectors of our democracy to act. We can't master the far-right terror by tackling a few isolated militant neo-Nazi groups."

Thousands of Germans held vigils and marched through rainy streets on Saturday to protest the fire-bombing of the synagogue. A meeting room and a stairway were destroyed by fire, but six occupants, including the synagogue's cantor, a Nazi Holocaust survivor, escaped.

The attack left Germany's 40,000 Jews — compared with 530,000 before the Nazi era — especially Lübeck's tiny Jewish community, fearful of the future.

A spokesman for the federal prosecutor said no progress had been made in tracking down the attackers.

In Lübeck on Saturday, protesters observed a five-minute silence. The synagogue was lighted with rows of candles and strewn with flowers. In Berlin, Heidelberg, and other German cities, hundreds demonstrated against fascism.

In Berlin, home to Germany's largest number of Jews, some 1,000 protesters marched silently on Saturday.

"I've lived in Berlin for the last 25 years, but I won't be staying much longer," said Sarah

Avacov, 62, a Romanian Jew who survived the Holocaust. "It's happening again."

■ 1953 Uprising Toll Grows

More than 125 people — far more than previously estimated — were killed when Soviet tanks crushed a workers' revolt in East Berlin in 1953, Reuters reported from Bonn, quoting a German newspaper on Sunday.

The death count from the June 17 uprising by East German construction workers, which predated an anti-Communist uprising in Hungary in 1956, had been covered up by the Communists but was put at not more than 50.

The newspaper Welt am Sonntag said that 48 people were now known to have been executed when East German authorities and their Soviet backers clamped down on dissent after the revolt.

The paper said Manfred Kittlaus, head of the Bonn office investigating crime by the East German officials, had also come across evidence that more than 120 people died trying to escape from East Germany by crossing the Baltic Sea.

Giller Party Leads in Turkish Voting

ANKARA (Reuters) — Early results in Turkey's nationwide municipal elections showed Prime Minister Tansu Ciller's True Path Party in the lead, with the pro-Islamic Welfare Party in second place.

The True Path Party had won 26.2 percent of the vote for local councils across the country with about 2 percent of results in, followed by the Welfare Party with about 23 percent, state television said. The main opposition Motherland Party was next with nearly 22 percent, pushing the Social Democrat Populist Party, the junior coalition partner, into fourth place with 10.4 percent.

U.S. Cites Gains in Israeli-PLO Pact

WASHINGTON (WP) — The advance guard of what could eventually become an 8,000-man Palestinian police force could begin moving into parts of the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho within a week, according to a senior American official.

In addition, the official said, Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization are close to agreement on creating a separate group of Palestinian police — probably numbering about 200 — who would patrol only with Israeli military forces in the West Bank town of Hebron. At least 29 Palestinians were massacred in Hebron by an extremist Jewish settler on Feb. 25.

Israeli officials who returned to Jerusalem for the Passover holidays expressed optimism that full-scale negotiations on carrying out the Gaza-Jericho accord would resume in Cairo on Tuesday. But PLO negotiators were more cautious.

Cambodia Protests Refugee Action

PHNOM PENH (AFP) — The Cambodian foreign minister, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, on Sunday strongly protested Thailand's "forced repatriation" of Cambodian refugees fleeing fighting in the northwest.

The Thai military continued sending the 25,000 Cambodians back over the border into Khmer Rouge-held territory, but was encountering resistance from some refugees who did not want to go, according to traders at the border. Phnom Penh had asked Bangkok to allow free access to the International Committee for the Red Cross and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to determine if the refugees wanted to return to areas controlled by the Cambodian government.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Burma Tries to Woo More Tourists

BANGKOK (Reuters) — Burma has extended the length of its tourist visas to four weeks from two to try to attract more tourists, Burmese radio reported. The broadcast, monitored by the BBC, said the visa extension became effective March 14. At the same time, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism increased the minimum amount of currency to be spent by each tourist to \$300 from \$200, the broadcast said.

In another change, Burma will allow locally owned private banks to operate foreign exchange services starting next month. The official exchange rate for Burma's kyat currency is six per U.S. dollar, but the black market rate is between 100 and 110 kyat per dollar, according to one Thai businessman who recently visited Rangoon.

German citizens can now obtain a two-year multiple visit visa to the United Arab Emirates instead of the usual two-month visas issued by the country, officials in Abu Dhabi said.

The Leaning Tower of Pisa may be straightening up, but Italian restoration officials are worried the monument's facade is beginning to crumble. A 30-centimeter (12-inch) chunk of the tower's facade broke off Sunday, and experts said rain, wind and pollution were all taking a toll on the facade, whose restoration has been largely neglected since scientists began a project to straighten the tower three years ago.

This Week's Holidays

Banking and government offices will be closed or services curtailed in the following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and religious holidays:

MONDAY: Serbia.

TUESDAY: Central African Republic, Madagascar, Taiwan.

WEDNESDAY: El Salvador.

THURSDAY: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Malta, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Spain, Uruguay, Vatican City, Venezuela.

FRIDAY: Australia, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Uganda, Venezuela, Vatican City, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

SATURDAY: Australia, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, France, Guatemala, Hong Kong, Iran, Israel, Mexico, Monaco, Panama, Spain, Uganda, Vatican City, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Sources: J.P. Morgan, Reuters.

A New Balloting System Begins

By John Tagliabue
New York Times Service

ROME — As Italians began voting Sunday to elect a new Parliament, they used a complicated new procedure originally intended to end Italy's system of choosing political parties, rather than individual candidates.

In part at least, the new electoral law allows Italians for the first time to choose from among candidates named on the ballot.

Up for grabs are all 430 seats in the Chamber of Deputies, the lower house, where the party or parties that win a majority of the vote will have the right to pick the prime minister.

Also at stake are all 315 seats in the Senate. The campaign has come down to a fight between a leftist alliance led by Achille Occhetto, leader of the Democratic Party of the Left, and a rightist alliance led by the media magnate Silvio Berlusconi.

The new voting system, which was enacted last year by the departing Parliament, was prompted by the involvement of the political parties in the wave of corruption scandals that has swept Italy, and was intended to foster clarity of choice and limit the old fragmentation of the political landscape.

At the same time, it was supposed to make individual candidates answerable to their constituents while curbing the power of party bosses. Under the old system, the bosses were not required to run for office in one-on-one contests, but were

assured seats in the legislature that were allotted according to the electoral strength of their parties.

Fearful of losing power, however, the party leaders in the old legislature pushed through what is, in fact, a hybrid electoral system. In its rules, three-fourths of the seats in each house of Parliament — 475 in the Chamber and 232 in the Senate — will be decided by the choice of a candidate on the ballot.

One-fourth of the seats — 155 in the Chamber and 83 in the Senate — will continue to be apportioned to candidates named by the parties according to each party's share of the vote.

Thus, each voter has three ballots to fill out in the voting booth. One, to choose a candidate for the Chamber, and the candidate with the most votes will win. The second, to pick one of 15 political parties to determine which share of the proportionally allotted 155 Chamber seats each party will get. Only parties with 4 percent of the vote or more will be eligible for additional seats.

The third ballot will serve to pick a candidate for the Senate, and as in voting for the Chamber, the candidate with the most votes will win. The 83 proportionally allotted Senate seats will be divided among the political parties under a complex formula according to their showing in the direct vote.

A 2-Day Vote for Passover

The general election is being held over two days to allow Orthodox Jews to vote while still observing the Passover festival, Reuters reported from Rome.

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THE AMERICAS/A PRODUCTIVE WEEK

Congress Gives Clinton a Boost Education Measure Tops Pre-Recess Action

By Helen Dewar
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Senate enactment of President Bill Clinton's bill to set national educational goals capped the most productive week for Congress this year, defying predictions the White-water affair would stall legislative action or stymie the president's initiatives on Capitol Hill.

Even Democrats concede serious disruptions could occur if the controversy deepens, spilling over into hearings expected later this year in both houses on ethical issues raised by the Arkansas land venture and the president's handling of questions about it.

But so far, Republican attacks on Mr. Clinton's handling of the controversy have only redoubled Democrats' determination to show that Congress is helping the White House do "the business we were sent here to do for the American people," as Mr. Clinton said at his news conference last Thursday.

In the Senate and the House, some Republicans complained that Democrats were just trying to help Mr. Clinton deflect attention from White-water problems and tried to apply the brakes, without much success.

A partisan disagreement over ground rules for consideration of a big anti-crime package led House Democrats to put off action on that measure until after Congress returns in mid-April from its two-week spring recess. But the House passed a second major education

bill and potentially far-reaching legislation to tighten lobbying laws.

The Senate passed its version of the fiscal 1994 budget, cutting a little deeper into spending than Mr. Clinton wanted but otherwise honoring the president's spending priorities. It also broke a Republican-led filibuster, holding up passage of a federal workers' buyout bill, intended to force inclusion of language earmarking savings for anticrime efforts.

But its toughest job was shutting off another Republican filibuster aimed at strengthening school prayer language in the "Goals 2000" education measure, which had gone through the House. Mr. Clinton had promoted the bill as governor and president to set national achievement goals for schools, with federal grants of near

\$5 billion over five years to encourage school systems to meet them.

After delays that forced an unusual postmidnight cloture vote Saturday morning just as the Senate was supposed to be homeward bound for its recess, Democrats mustered two votes more than the 60 required to break a filibuster led by a school prayer advocate, Senator Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina. It then passed the schools bill, 63 to 22, and sent it to the White House for Mr. Clinton's signature.

On the critical cloture vote, nine moderate Republicans joined nearly all Democrats in voting to end the filibuster, giving the president his first big legislative trophy of the year.

Post Denies Killing Article on Sexual Allegation Against Clinton

By Howard Kurtz
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — To the six weeks since Paula Jones, a former Arkansas state employee, publicly asserted that President Bill Clinton had sexually harassed her when he was governor of Arkansas, conservative critics have questioned why The Washington Post has not published an article on the matter.

Several major newspapers ran at least a short account of Miss Jones' allegations, which the White House strongly denied, after her news conference here on Feb. 11. The Post did not publish a news article, although it mentioned Miss Jones' accusations in a Style section piece on the conservative conference at which she appeared.

A newsletter published by the Republican commentator Kevin Phillips reported rumors that The Post was "sitting

with a major story" that confirms the allegations. And a front-page headline in The Washington Times said Friday that such an article had got "the spike," although the Times article itself did not go that far.

The Post's managing editor, Robert Kaiser, said that the paper was coordinating to look into the allegations and that no article on the subject had been killed.

"Our role in a case like this is to examine an allegation made by a private citizen against a public official with some care," Mr. Kaiser said. "We have an obligation to The Post's readers to do our best to establish the truth and oot simply to print damaging accusations the moment they are made."

The Times piece described a shouting match between a Post reporter, Michael Isikoff, one of three staffers working on the story, and several editors, and said that Mr. Isikoff had been suspended for two weeks over the

incident. Mr. Kaiser would not comment on what he called "internal editorial deliberations."

"We do not discuss personnel matters of any kind out of respect for the privacy of our employees," Mr. Kaiser said. "But in light of the incorrect assertion in today's Washington Times, I'd like to say that no one here has been disciplined over the handling of a story about Paula Jones' allegations."

Mr. Isikoff would say only that "I've worked hard on the story, and I'm continuing to pursue it."

Joe Goulden of the conservative group Accuracy in Media said he was "just surprised it was written off the way it was when the story first came out."

He contrasted The Post's actio with its heavy coverage of Anita Hill's allegations of sexual harassment against Clarence Thomas after he was nominated for the Supreme Court. "I think it's a double standard," he said.



Mrs. Clinton and Roger Clinton at a pre-wedding party.

POLITICAL NOTES

Mr. President, the Best Man

DALLAS — It's not every wedding where the president of the United States flies in to be your best man, trailing squads of Secret Service agents and a corps of journalists.

So Mr. Clinton's brother, Roger, seemed extra thrilled here Saturday as he tied the marital knot with Molly Martin in a ceremony at the Dallas Arboretum, while President Bill Clinton stood by

supportively.

The Dallas affair was about family and a couple of Clinton boys who forged their emotional bonds as half brothers amid the childhood trauma of living with an alcoholic father.

"Just a lot of love" is what brother Bill brought him from Washington, Roger told friends.

The younger Clinton, 37, said he was nervous about getting married, "but I'm very excited."

The president, though he took time here for a visit to a children's hospital and some other political business, also declared himself excited about the wedding.

And Dallas, too, has been excited by the arrival

of the president for a social event involving a homegrown woman. "Veiled to Secrecy," said a front-page headline in the Dallas Morning News over a story about the wedding, to which some 400 guests were invited.

If much is known about Roger Clinton, with his dreams of becoming a pop star even as he continues his struggle to overcome a past that included a cocaine habit, drinking problems and a prison term, less is known of the 25-year-old bride.

But this is known: She's eight months pregnant. She and Roger have been living together in California for about a year where, according to the Dallas Morning News, she worked at a software company in California.

Quote / Unquote:

President Bill Clinton promoting his health care program at a hospital in Dallas: "Health care reform is about doing what's right, about having compassion and bestowing dignity on each of us as God's children."

2 L.A. Shootings Renew Japan Outrage

By T. R. Reid
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — This new tragedy shows us once again just what kind of a place America has become," the reporter on Japan's NTV-TV network intoned.

The "new tragedy" that received extended coverage on NHK and all other Japanese television networks on Sunday was a carjacking in Los Angeles to which two college students, one Japanese and one Japanese-American, were shot in the head and left near death in the parking lot of a grocery store in a Los Angeles suburb.

The two victims, Takuma Ito, a 19-year-old exchange student from Japan, and Go Matsunaga, also 19, an American citizen whose family lives in Japan, were being sustained on life-support machines in a hospital until their relatives could arrive from Japan to see them alive one last time, reports here said.

The case prompted immediate Japanese government advisories about the risks of travel to the United States and other countries considered dangerous.

And it immediately brought to mind for all Japanese the "Freeze Case" in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in October 1992 when a 16-year-old Japanese student was shot to death when he knocked on the door of a suburban home looking for a Halloween party.

Whether the Los Angeles case will have as broad an impact is unknown, but the reaction

to Japan on Sunday was much the same as the reaction to the Baton Rouge case: a mixture of terror and anger at U.S. society.

"We had talked about the danger," Mr. Ito's mother told NHK. "He promised me he would not walk down the street to go shopping; he would always use his car."

On Friday night at about 11, Mr. Ito and Mr. Matsunaga, both freshmen at Marymount College in Los Angeles, drove to a 24-hour grocery in San Pedro.

According to the police, a gunman, apparently alone, approached the two as their car stopped in the parking lot. Both students were shot in the head and left in the parking lot; the assailant evidently drove off in the car, a 1994 Honda Civic bearing Mr. Ito's "Love NY" sticker.

The Baton Rouge man who shot the unarmed 16-year-old said he was trying to protect his family; he was subsequently acquitted by a Baton Rouge jury. As a result, the "Freeze Case" tended to confirm all the worst Japanese stereotypes of the United States as a nation where guns and violence have turned even quiet suburbs into killing zones.

The Los Angeles shootings will most likely strengthen that view.

"We were worried sick to have a child go to the U.S.," said Rumiko Ito, mother of Takuma Ito. "We said, 'Why would you even think of going to that country?' But this was his dream, to go to college there."

In covering the Baton Rouge killing, the

Japanese press had to teach people here a new English usage: the word "freeze" is the sense of "Don't move!" In the Baton Rouge case, the home owner shouted a single word, "Freeze!" before shooting his victim. The 16-year-old from Japan did not know that this was a command to stop.

Similarly, the new tragedy has the press here teaching another English neologism: "carjacking."

"Evidence, this crime is increasing rapidly in the U.S.," explained a correspondent on the CBS-TV network. "It means to approach a driver and steal his car at gunpoint."

For that matter, almost all forms of violent crime are rare here. Japan has extremely crowded cities — and yet it has largely escaped the scourge of crime that has become a major concern for Americans. With twice the population, America has more murders each month than Japan will have all year.

As result, the Japanese are shocked by crimes that have become more or less everyday fare to the United States. The Baton Rouge killing in 1992 was mostly ignored by the American press until the reaction to Japan made it new. Similarly, a parking-lot shooting in Los Angeles probably would not get any space in an East Coast newspaper unless, as in this case, the victims were foreigners and their home country reacted to horror.

Mr. Lewis is a senior investigator in Kansas City for the Resolution

Leach Has Accusations, But Not a Phone Tape

By David E. Rosenbaum
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Representative Jim Leach says L. Jean Lewis taped the conversation.

Ms. Lewis is the federal investigator who maintains that a government henchman from Washington visited her last month in Kansas City and tried unsuccessfully to persuade her to say that Bill and Hillary Clinton had gained no financial benefit from a failed Arkansas savings and loan.

Ms. Lewis' contention formed the basis of Mr. Leach's accusation in the speech on the floor of the House last Thursday that "the independence of the U.S. government's regulatory system has been flagrantly violated" to protect the president.

But in an interview, April Breslaw, the official from Washington who Ms. Lewis says tried to get her to get the Clintons off the hook, disputed Ms. Lewis' account of their meeting.

"I categorically deny the accusation that I said anybody from Washington wanted any particular outcome," said Ms. Breslaw, a lawyer for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., the federal regulator of banks and failed savings and loans. Ms. Lewis is a senior investigator in Kansas City for the Resolution

Trust Corp., the agency in charge of the savings and loan bailout.

Mr. Leach, Republican of Iowa, said that Ms. Lewis had surreptitiously taped her conversation with Ms. Breslaw on Feb. 2, that he had heard the tape and that it substantiated Ms. Lewis' version of the meeting. But Mr. Leach said he did not have the tape.

In his speech, Mr. Leach implied that he had several sources for the most serious assertions he has made about the Whitewater case: that political appointees in Washington tried to muzzle the career investigators to Kansas City to protect the Clintons from embarrassment.

Mr. Leach offered no documentation to buttress the accusation, and he admitted that Ms. Lewis was, in fact, his only source.

Mr. Leach said other officials had refused to talk with him or his staff about the Whitewater case.

British Tourist Wounded

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A robber shot a British tourist who surprised the gunman in his Manhattan hotel room. Peter Cooper, 46, of Bournemouth, was treated overnight for a shoulder wound and released from hospital Sunday. He lost \$250 in cash, a watch and a camera.

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New Chef (and Policy) for White House Kitchen

By Phyllis C. Richman and Donnie Radcliffe
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton has chosen Walter Scheib, executive chef of the Greenbrier resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, as the executive chef of the White House.

After serving lunch last week to a group of White House women, Mr. Scheib was called back to meet with Mrs. Clinton.

Afterward, Mr. Scheib found himself in his kitchen-to-be, interviewing the staff of three, since he will be the one to decide who among them stays. The two-men pastry kitchen is not affected by these changes.

The word on Mr. Scheib is not official. "No one has been officially accepted the job," was the state-

ment carefully enunciated — twice — by Ned Latimore, Mrs. Clinton's assistant press secretary. The present executive chef, Pierre Chambon, who resigned early this month, has agreed to stay on until the new chef is installed.

The White House was interviewing chefs right up until Thursday, said Mr. Latimore. Mrs. Clinton was "hands-on in this decision," he said. Where the chefs were born is not important," he said, although he said they had to be U.S. citizens.

But creativity was crucial. "The

Citizens have talked about showcasing the best — entertainment, food, wine," Mr. Latimore said. American food and wine. "The menus were to French when the Clinton's came to the White House," he said.

Mr. Scheib, 39, supervises an apprenticeship program and the banquets

four months. "I was one of the few lucky enough to have the opportunity to resign," he said.

He moved on to the Mayflower Hotel, where he expected to settle, for good. But within a year, his old boss from Boca Raton, by then president of the Greenbrier, invited him to take over the four kitchens there. Again, he considered it a long-term job. But when he read of the White House opening, Mr. Scheib said he could not resist calling an old friend, Roland Mesnier, the White House pastry chef, and throwing his toque on the ring. "I've always been 10 years too young for the job I've been in," he says.

Mr. Scheib has introduced to the Greenbrier such dishes as tandem scallops with risotto, pasta salad with arugula and pancetta, vegetable risotto with eggplant and ricotta torte, sea scallops with curried coconut and black beans.

But his wife did not like Florida,

so they returned to Washington, where Mr. Scheib worked as executive chef of the Madison Hotel for

the La Varenne cooking school, which is housed at the Greenbrier.

As a high school junior in Bethesda, Maryland, Mr. Scheib persuaded a buddy to sign up for a cooking class with him so he would not be the only boy in the class. Both achieved their goals: "He met girls, and I cooked."

After working in Washington for Marriott and a steak house, Mr. Scheib went to the Culinary Institute of America. He went to the Capital Hilton as banquet chef when he graduated in 1979, and became executive chef within two years. Five years later, the brother of his boss hired him to run the kitchen of the Boca Raton Resort and Club.

But his wife did not like Florida,

so they returned to Washington, where Mr. Scheib worked as executive chef of the Madison Hotel for

the La Varenne cooking school, which is housed at the Greenbrier.

He moved on to the Mayflower Hotel, where he expected to settle, for good. But within a year, his old boss from Boca Raton, by then president of the Greenbrier, invited him to take over the four kitchens there. Again, he

South Africa's Ground Zero

In Sharpeville, History Hangs Over Campaign

By Bill Keller

New York Times Service

SHARPEVILLE, South Africa — This is the campaign venue from hell, a place to make advance men swallow their tongues and reporters think fondly of more sedate ways to earn a living.

You enter Sharpeville past smoldering garbage heaps and tumble-down houses, past graffiti screaming of race war against "settlers," meaning whites, through an angry, gun-crazy town that is a testimonial to breakdown.

Public services, which were never much, are at the moment nonexistent. Violence, which in Sharpeville is discussed as a mysterious commonplace of nature, like the weather, has rendered the township unserviceable. No electrician or grocery truck or sewer repair crew is willing to brave the wild frontier just now.

But politicians cannot so easily bypass Sharpeville. Sharpeville, south of Johannesburg, is a hellhole with a claim on history. The modern calendar of anti-apartheid resistance starts the day 34 years ago, when police shot and killed 69 protesters here for mounting a Martin Luther King-style civil disobedience campaign. Following quickly upon that spasm of bloodshed, the government banned opposition groups, and the struggle was on.

Three of South Africa's would-be presidents paid homage to Sharpeville on the anniversary last week, each in his way contributing to a larger portrait of the campaign.

President F.W. de Klerk phoned in his homage — fair enough, given the trophy he would become if he set foot in the place.

The fact that he issued a statement at all was a reminder that he

is the first white president soliciting black votes. But Mr. de Klerk did not suggest that Sharpeville in any sense advanced the freedom of black South Africans.

And if you are not going to tip your hand to black struggle or denounce invidious white power, what else can you say about Sharpeville? Mr. de Klerk chose this:

"Let the memory of those who died at Sharpeville, and all others who died as a result of the conflicts of the past, be an inspiration for the

NEWS ANALYSIS

new beginning — not a reason for dwelling in the past."

Clarence Makwetu, the president of the Pan Africanist Congress, was the candidate with the most legitimate claim to attention on Sharpeville Day. The Pan Africanists initiated the campaign of civil disobedience that ended in the massacre, and it is their annual ritual to gather each March 21 at the township's cemetery to clean the graves of their martyrs.

But this is not Mr. Makwetu's year. Since the deaths of the great thinkers of the black nationalist movement — Steve Biko, Robert Sobukwe — the Pan Africanist Congress has drifted. In recent years it has been more famous for its terrorist army and its demand that all wealth be taken by the state for redistribution.

There was a kind of pathos to Mr. Makwetu, standing before a couple of thousand loyalists at the Sharpeville soccer field and lamenting the unwillingness of "big business" and "the overseas community" to bankroll the Pan Africanists.

Nelson Mandela's rally was laid out on the closest thing Sharpeville

has to a recreation area — the grassy bank of an industrial waste pond. Locals call it Miami Beach.

Mr. Mandela descended in a helicopter, to the music of an Afro-pop band playing through 30-foot towers of loudspeakers. It took half an hour for him to make his way through the surging crowd.

Marsheals battled to part the crowd. Fans fainted in the crush. Gunfire crackled. A hapless MC yelled "Cease fire!" By the time Mr. Mandela reached the stage, the candidate's face was puckerred with anger.

If ever there was an opportunity to lambaste the police, this was it. Sharpeville, the landmark of police iniquity, and three days after the release of a judicial report implicating top officers of the South African police in a campaign of gunning, murder and sabotage.

Instead, he began by castigating his organizers for letting the crowd get out of hand — "It is lucky that nobody has died here," he fumed — and then went on to shower praise on the police. Don't let the prouise on the police! Don't let the prouise on the police! Don't let the prouise on the police!

On balance, Mr. Mandela gave the impression of a man less worried about his campaign opponents or even about the sinister spoilers within the establishment than about his own electorate.

The events of Sharpeville, 1960, figured as little in Mr. Mandela's speech as in Mr. de Klerk's. The difference was that, having been here, he could see what Mr. de Klerk could not: the danger that on the road to democracy there are many off-ramps to anarchy.



PASSPORT TO DEMOCRACY — A Russian Orthodox nun registering to vote with her passport on Sunday in Kiev at the St. Florovski religious establishment. Turnout in the first round of the first free parliamentary elections in Ukraine reached 67 percent.

KING: A Television Kingmaker — Live and Suspended for Posterity

Continued from Page 1

down. Bob Packwood wants to bare his soul (only his son).

Journalists are famous for their ambition, but King breaks new ground. The only mountain left, he says, would be booking God on the show for sweeps week. Never mind that whatever week God appears will be sweeps week. And never mind that God already knows how to beam up 22,000 miles, then bounce as far away as Saudi Arabia and as close as the television set across the street. It makes Larry King feel like God to do the same.

King has already prepared his questions for Christ, assuming that Christ does not decide to do Koppel. "Do you think you were virgin-born?" "Do you believe you are a direct son of God?"

Journalists like to mutter that King is too Gladly paid. That is grossing that he has lowered the dignity of presidential politics,

though for this he deserves no more than what basketball players call an "assist." In King's company, Billy Joel hawking his concert tour blurs into Bill Clinton hawking health care blurs into Rossanne Arnold hawking herself. The March schedule for "Larry King Live" showed Bob Barker on one night and Betty Ford on another. And Henry Kissinger's booking did not follow far behind someone called "Kathy the Nymphette." (She was going to come on, like some political figures, to discuss sex; except that she was willing to admit she likes a lot of it.)

King shrugs and imputes such complaints to envy. He says he doesn't worry about becoming friends with the politicians he interviews. And he believes what actors say is often as important as what politicians say. (Alas, he is right.)

"I found Hillary Clinton sexy, romantic, flirtatious and bright as a whip," he says. Suddenly he is unexpectedly cold-eyed. "She's more involved in Whitewater than I am, and he can't fire her. I like them both. But anything's possible. What would have happened to Jack and Jackie if there had been a second term?" He looks across the table at his attractive blond ex-wife (fourth of five), Sharon, who has joined him at lunch. "There's so much that goes into marriage," he muses. "Love, anger, tenderness. One night Sharon threw a plate at me and just missed my head." Sharon winces. "I don't remember that," she mouths, embarrassed.

He insists that in his no-nonsense way, he does ask the right questions. "If I'd had my show 130

years ago, I would be sitting with Lincoln and I would have had to say: 'What's with the wife, Abe? Does she spend money. And what is with the foursome?' (In Brooklyn, a score refers to something else.)

He concedes that his own celebrity can be a warping factor in interviews, but that he can live with it. When asked about the blurring of tabloid and network news, he waves it off, saying, "It's a moot point."

Mrs. Bobbitt was an exclusive; she was yesterday's story," he says. "Ethiopia. The contras. Whitewater. The press feeds off these stories till it gets tired, until we burn. When the Washington press burns, we wait a minute and then move on to something else."

There is something refreshing about King's lack of reflection, just as there is about the service that he provides. The absence of agony about the ethics of journalism and trivialization of culture has its rewards. The people on his show are unfettered, even when they are pampered. They always show more than they mean to show.

King may be vulgar, but vulgar derives from vulgus, which means the people. The lowest common denominator that King peddles on his show has a strong whiff of democracy. He once told Time magazine, "If — God forbid — I ever became president, I'd keep right on doing 'Larry King Live' from the White House." And it isn't his fault that nobody would notice the difference.

PROBE: Influence Sought

Continued from Page 1

that White House officials would be surprised by his appointment to look into the Madison Guaranty matter." He said that it "would have been better had these conversations not occurred" and that he was "confident that such conversations will not be repeated."

"At the same time," he added, "these conversations should not be blown out of proportion."

Senior White House officials raised the issue of Mr. Stephens's hiring in two conversations with the Treasury officials on Feb. 25, just after discovering that Mr. Stephens had been retained.

Mr. Ickes, the deputy chief of staff, and Mr. Stephanopoulos, Mr. Clinton's senior adviser, called Mr. Altman, who was also serving as acting head of Resolution Trust and had just announced that he would recuse himself from its investigation of Madison.

Mr. Ickes and Mr. Stephanopoulos were furious that Mr. Altman had announced his recusal without telling White House officials. The day before, Mr. Altman revealed to the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee that on Feb. 2 he had briefed senior White House officials about the Madison case. The White House had spent much of the day defending the propriety of the briefing and explaining why Mr. Altman should not remove himself from the Madison investigation.

In the course of a conference call with Mr. Altman, Mr. Ickes and Mr. Stephanopoulos also raised the subject of Mr. Stephens, calling his hiring an "outrageous choice," and asking, according to sources familiar with the conversation: "Can anything be done about it? Is it final?" The sources were uncertain whether it was Mr. Stephanopoulos or Mr. Ickes who raised the subject.

Mr. Stephanopoulos also spoke with Mr. Steiner, chief of staff to Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen and a friend of Mr. Stephanopoulos's since the 1988 Michael S. Dukakis presidential campaign.

One source, describing Mr. Stephanopoulos as "pretty fired up," said the White House aide asked Mr. Steiner whether Mr. Stephens's hiring was "final, whether anything could be done about it." Mr. Steiner told him there was nothing he could do.

EU: Ministers Offer Compromise to Britain on Voting

Continued from Page 1

tantamount to a legally binding accord, which Britain had demanded, and would not set a bad precedent for an intergovernmental conference in 1996. Mr. Delors and most member states want that conference to enhance the use of majority voting to ensure the Union will remain capable of taking action as it grows.

The compromise also calls for EU governments to create a wise men's committee to study voting rights and other institutional questions in preparation for the 1996 conference.

The foreign ministers also issued a warning yet to Greece to lift its embargo on the

former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, but held off for another two to three months any legal action against Athens in favor of continued diplomacy. Greece claims that the republic has territorial ambitions on the adjacent northern Greek province of Macedonia.

The other 11 foreign ministers rejected the embargo as a flagrant violation of EU law in "very frank" discussions with Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias. EU officials said, but the bloc was not ready to take the holder of the Union's rotating presidency to court or press any harder on a government that enjoys nearly unanimous support from the Greek people on the issue.

BOOKS

PARALLEL TIME: Growing Up in Black and White

By Brent Staples. 274 pages. \$23. Pantheon Books.

Reviewed by Michael Eric Dyson

WHAT THEY'RE READING

• David Tabatsky, American actor and juggler living in Berlin, is reading "Give War a Chance" by P.J. O'Rourke.

• O'Rourke has a brilliant eye for political satire and the descriptions of right-wing anarchists are spot-on. I'm also rereading the Bible. For me, the stories never get stale and they make my beard grow."

(Michael Kallenbach, *IHT*)



A less successful attempt at escape — from the frozen regions of racial stereotyping — is symbolized in his strange, patently quixotic stalking of the novelist San Bellow after Bellow became a doctoral student in psychology at the University of Chicago.

Staples jogged by Bellow's apartment and tried to force a chance sidewalk meeting because he wanted to tell Bellow, "to steal the essence of him, to absorb it right into my bones."

But Staples came away only with the harsh caricatures of black male life that he found in Bellow's fiction; he could not escape meaning far less to his idol than what Bellow meant to him.

Staples's frustrated quest expresses more than it intends; it speaks to the attempt of black people to somehow secure the approval of a culture that deems itself to the variety and complexity, the sheer ingenuity, of black life.

With its array of metaphors marching across the map of the unruly but rewarding terrain where personal experience reflects and refines national identity, "Parallel Lives" reminds us that the best personal writing is born of the courage to confront oneself.

Michael Eric Dyson, a professor at Brown University and the author of "Reflecting Black: African-American Cultural Criticism," wrote this for The New York Times.

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ROBE:
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South Korea Urges A Softer Approach On Nuclear Dispute

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — South Korea's foreign minister said Sunday that a United Nations Security Council resolution suggesting economic sanctions against North Korea might go too far as a first step.

Foreign Minister Han Sung Joo said a softer, nonbinding statement might be more effective in persuading North Korea to accept thorough UN inspections of its suspect nuclear sites.

"Before resolutions are adopted, China's suggestion of a statement may be effective," Mr. Han said at a press briefing before leaving for Beijing to join President Kim Young Sam. Mr. Kim arrived in Beijing on Sunday from Shanghai but made no statement. His talks with Chinese leaders begin Monday.

The United States has announced plans to move more sophisticated weapons to South Korea, and the North's official press agency, KCNA, said Sunday that the U.S. moves "are driving the situation to the brink of war."

The agency, monitored in Tokyo, said: "If the U.S. imperialists think they can frighten us with military threat, it is, indeed, a foolish dream."

Accusing Defense Secretary William J. Perry of launching a weapons buildup, KCNA said remarks he had made "fully revealed the dangerous scheme of the U.S. imperialists to unhesitatingly lead the situation on the Korean Peninsula to a catastrophic war phase."

In Seoul, the police arrested 83 students staging a protest in front of the U.S. Embassy on Sunday. Students holding placards and shaking fists shouted, "No Patriot missiles in South Korea!" for about 10 minutes before their arrest, the police said.

Last week, President Bill Clinton restored plans to send Patriot defensive missiles to South Korea.

China suggested Friday that the Security Council issue a condemning statement officially from its chairman, Jean-Bernard Mérimée of France, which could be adopted by consensus rather than by a vote. Resolutions are legally binding and must be adopted by a vote.

As a permanent member of the Security Council, China can veto any resolution, and as the main remaining ally of reclusive North Korea, it is seen as likely to do so if sanctions are called for.

"If North Korea does not accept inspections even after the statement, China would have to agree to

move on to resolutions," Mr. Han said.

For the last year, North Korea has obstructed obligatory inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency while denying that it is building nuclear weapons.

On Thursday, the United States presented the Security Council with a draft resolution calling on the North to permit new inspections within a month. It does not call for sanctions, apparently to avoid China's veto, but it leaves open the possibility by saying the council will "consider further action if necessary."

Pyongyang has threatened military action if the Security Council votes sanctions. Seoul has been trying to increase the pressure without provoking a military response.

The Pentagon has been moving to bolster its forces in South Korea to protect against an attack. To improve the ability to rush warplanes to South Korea, Mr. Perry has ordered the air force to build up its supply of munitions and spare parts there.

The United States has announced plans to move more sophisticated weapons to South Korea, and the North's official press agency, KCNA, said Sunday that the U.S. moves "are driving the situation to the brink of war."

The agency, monitored in Tokyo, said: "If the U.S. imperialists think they can frighten us with military threat, it is, indeed, a foolish dream."

Accusing Defense Secretary William J. Perry of launching a weapons buildup, KCNA said remarks he had made "fully revealed the dangerous scheme of the U.S. imperialists to unhesitatingly lead the situation on the Korean Peninsula to a catastrophic war phase."

In Seoul, the police arrested 83 students staging a protest in front of the U.S. Embassy on Sunday. Students holding placards and shaking fists shouted, "No Patriot missiles in South Korea!" for about 10 minutes before their arrest, the police said.

Last week, President Bill Clinton restored plans to send Patriot defensive missiles to South Korea.

China suggested Friday that the Security Council issue a condemning statement officially from its chairman, Jean-Bernard Mérimée of France, which could be adopted by consensus rather than by a vote. Resolutions are legally binding and must be adopted by a vote.

As a permanent member of the Security Council, China can veto any resolution, and as the main remaining ally of reclusive North Korea, it is seen as likely to do so if sanctions are called for.

"If North Korea does not accept inspections even after the statement, China would have to agree to



President Kim Young Sam of South Korea shaking hands with a group of his compatriots resident in Beijing on his arrival Sunday. He is in Beijing for talks with Chinese leaders beginning Monday.

(AP, NYT, Reuters)

CHINA: The World's Most Populous Nation Also Has Longest Death Row

Continued from Page 1
ished with fines or imprisonment, according to Amnesty International.

In November 1992, a merchant was even executed for making and selling ordinary spirits as *Maoai*, a liquor famous for its potency.

About 65 crimes, or one-third of all criminal offenses in China, are now punishable by death. In addition to murder and armed robbery, the death penalty may be given for serious cases of prostitution, trade in cultural relics, sabotage of dikes and organizing secret religious societies.

A wide variety of "counterrevolutionary" crimes also carry capital punishment. But most political prisoners fall into categories of "counterrevolutionary" crimes not subject to the death penalty.

Once charged, a person is almost always convicted, and sentences are rarely overturned.

In China, execution is a raw process, with little attention paid to dignity. Chinese officials often point out that prisoners' feelings cannot be taken into consideration since they have been deprived of political rights "for life."

No attempt is made to minimize contact between executioner and prisoner here. Sometimes, prisoners eat their breakfast of steamed cornbread with the soldiers who will shoot them an hour or two later, according to a former judicial employee who has witnessed about 100 executions.

A soldier of the paramilitary force known as

the People's Armed Police pulls the trigger. He does not wear a mask or hood. The prisoner does not wear a blindfold.

The Communists use executions as a propaganda tool. In the Maoist era, executions were performed in public. Pressure was put on people to watch. Attendance proved one's solidarity with the people and against the people's enemies. Even today, there are reports of mass-sentencing rallies and even public executions in remote provinces.

In the 1970s, some executions were broadcast on prime-time television. But in the last decade, as China has opened to the West and become sensitive about its international image, it has moved executions behind closed doors.

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Disruptions to farming patterns touched off shortages and panic buying this winter, sending grain prices skyrocketing an average of 43 percent in major cities. In some markets, price increases jumped 70 to 135 percent before the government released 2.5 million tons from grain reserves to calm the markets.

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HARVEST: China's Economic Boom Erodes Its Ability to Feed Itself

Continued from Page 1
land has steadily contracted; estimates of the decrease range from 15 percent to one-third.

Intensified farming to increase crop yields has wrought widespread degradation in China's soils, a condition agricultural specialists are now documenting.

Erosion, poor crop rotation, over-fertilization and the loss of organic content of soils that once flourished from manure-based farming have brought a new plague to the land. So has an uncontrollable level of industrial pollution.

A senior official of China's State Land Administration complained publicly that China had been suffering a net annual loss of nearly 659,000 acres of farmland since 1991 because of "the overburdened boom in real estate development."

Bot in a more startling disclosure, the party newspaper People's Daily said on Jan. 3 that new Agriculture Ministry statistics showed that in 1993, farmland used to grow the country's basic grain crop had shrunk by 4.3 million acres and was 5.5 percent below the 1992 acreage.

Agriculture Minister Lio Jiang said 50 mil-

lion Chinese farmers had abandoned farming last year to seek better jobs in the cities.

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BOSNIA: Atrocities Go On

Continued from Page 1
four Serbian men in military uniforms in Vrbanja, a Muslim suburb of Banja Luka. She said she was returning from the market when the men stopped next to her in their car.

"Two men got out and they forced me into the car," she said. "They took me to a farm, and three men held me down and one man did it. The other men laughed. Then they left, I walked 10 kilometers back home. How can they treat us like this, like nothing, like worse than nothing?"

Serbian authorities argue that "uncontrolled elements" are to blame for the upswing in violence, an explanation Mr. Bäblerstedt rejects.

"Knowing the high efficiency of the Serb police, they could do something if they wanted to," he said. "But they are part of the problem."

Mr. Bäblerstedt said the United Nations' only recourse has been to evacuate hundreds of Muslims and Croats from Banja Luka. Thus, the United Nations finds itself in the ambiguous position of doing the Serbs' work for them, clearing Muslims and Croats from Serbian-controlled turf. The UN humanitarian agency, along with the Geneva-based International Committee for the Red Cross, has been busing 60 people a week away from Serbian-held regions.

"If we don't get these people out of there, they could wind up dead," Mr. Bäblerstedt said. "It's as simple as that."

The main reason for the recent upsurge in violence and ethnic cleansing in the Serbian-held region appears to be that the Bosnian Serbs are preparing for the end of the war. Only a small number of Muslims or Croats will be tolerated on their territory, UN officials say.

In December, the mayor of Zenica, the biggest Muslim-held town in central Bosnia, agreed with the Serbian mayor of Banja Luka to begin a population exchange. Muslims and Croats were being tossed from their houses in Banja Luka to make way for an expected tide of 10,000 Serbs from Zenica, Mr. Bäblerstedt said.

Significantly, however, Muslims are not conducting a similar cleansing of Serbs in their region. Indeed, Mr. Bäblerstedt said the Muslim program was "quite correct."

"We found no indication of violence," he said.

Muslim Asia Eases 'Schindler' Stand

By Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — Indonesia and Malaysia are expected to affirm their commitment to a moderate form of Islam by allowing the film "Schindler's List" to be shown in theaters if the director, Steven Spielberg, agrees to some cuts involving sex and nudity scenes.

Film censors in Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim country, will view the film this week before announcing a decision, while the Malaysian government said over the weekend that it would review a ban imposed recently by censors.

Local distributors of the film said Mr. Spielberg had given instructions to withdraw the film from any country where authorities censored parts of it.

Juwono Sudarsono, dean of the faculty of political science at the University of Indonesia, said in Jakarta that authorities would probably want the movie to be screened to "emphasize that Indonesia is not an Islamic state and that Islam is not an official religion here."

He said most Indonesian Muslims recognized that the Holocaust did indeed happen and that, whatever the situation in the Middle East and Palestine, they want Indonesia to remain a tolerant society.

The film is the story of a German war profiteer, Oscar Schindler, who saved the lives of more than 1,000 Jews who would otherwise have gone to German death camps.

Although more than 80 percent of Indonesia's 185 million population profess to be Muslims, the state-sponsored ideology, known as Pancasila, offers equal treatment to all major religious groups, including Hinduism, Catholicism, Protestantism and Buddhism.

President Suharto has made it clear that he will not allow stability to be put at risk by Muslim pressure groups seeking to turn the country into an Islamic state.

Nonetheless, the United States, evidently alarmed at a surge of anti-American and anti-Israeli sentiment among Muslims in both Indonesia and Malaysia after the massacre of Palestinians at Hebron last month, took the unusual step on Friday of issuing a statement that "Schindler's List" was an accurate portrayal of German atrocities against Jews "which should not be forgotten."

The State Department comment, Washington came after Malaysian censors banned the film and a leading Muslim cleric in Indonesia called for similar action on the grounds that the movie was "nothing but Zionist propaganda."

In the Philippines, which also has a large Muslim population, the government's Movie and Television Regulatory and Classification Board decided to cut portions of the film because they showed "too much breast" and a scene where Mr. Schindler has sex with his mistress.

In protest, Warner Brothers, the film distributor, withdrew the movie, saying Mr. Spielberg wanted it shown uncut or not at all. The incident created a furor, and President Fidel V. Ramos intervened to keep the movie intact.

Islam is the official religion of Malaysia, although the country's constitution guarantees freedom of worship.

Malaysian censors reportedly concluded that "Schindler's List" was propaganda designed to gain support for Israel and the Jews.

But in a statement Saturday announcing that the government would review the censors' ban, Anwar Ibrahim, Malaysia's deputy prime minister, dismissed allegations from Jewish support groups in the United States and Australia that the Malaysian government was anti-Semitic.

"We have consistently condemned all forms of atrocities, past and present, be they by the Nazis against the Jews, the Zionists against the Palestinians or the Serbs against the Bosnians," he said.

Although the film was about the Holocaust, Mr. Anwar said that its message was "a powerful moral voice against crime towards humanity."

In Jakarta, Soekanto, executive director of the National Film Censorship Board of Indonesia, also indicated that Indonesia would allow the movie to be screened.

But both Mr. Soekanto and Mr. Anwar said their governments would continue to reserve the right to censor movies with sexually explicit scenes, and ban those that were pornographic or religiously offensive.

Washington & World Business

THE OUTLOOK FOR GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP
WASHINGTON, D.C. APRIL 21-22, 1994

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■ Ronald H. Brown U.S. Secretary of Commerce, will be our guest speaker at the opening dinner to be held at the Corcoran Gallery of Art.

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A FOREIGN POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR THE POST-COLO-WAR ERA

■ Warren M. Christopher U.S. Secretary of State

A REPUBLICAN RESPONSE

■ Senator Malcolm Wallop R., Wyoming

BEYOND THE URUGUAY ROUND

■ Ambassador Arthur Yerkov Deputy U.S. Trade Representative

AMERICA'S GLOBAL TRADE OBJECTIVES: STRUGGLING TOWARDS EQUITY

■ Senator Max Baucus D., Montana

THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION: SUCCESSES & SETBACKS

■ Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum

International Herald Tribune

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Lessons for Peacekeepers

Except for 50 marines left behind to guard diplomatic buildings, the last American troops left Somalia on Friday. The humanitarian intervention that began in a burst of can-do confidence and prime time publicity in the waning days of the Bush administration ends far more quietly and with decidedly mixed results. Ambiguous endings make politicians and military officers uncomfortable. No one any longer wants to talk about Somalia as a prototype for post-Cold War military action. Yet in a world full of potential conflicts, there are valuable lessons to be learned from this sobering experience.

The U.S. withdrawal will be completed within the five-month deadline set by President Bill Clinton after a deadly October firefight effectively ended domestic support for the Somalia mission. Waiting five months allowed the president to avoid the appearance of panicky retreat. And by drastically lowering the U.S. military profile, further American fatalities were limited.

The phased U.S. retreat and United Nations efforts to coax faction leaders into a "declaration of national reconciliation" pointing toward a future coalition government create an aura of orderly transition. But few close observers are confident that it will last. Other Western powers are also withdrawing their troops; violence again threatens the streets and the latest agreement among clan leaders has yet to be tested by the nasty details of power sharing.

In the perspective of the entire 15-month U.S. Somalia mission, two main mistakes stand out. The first was George Bush's initial premise that it was purely humanitarian intervention. It turns out that there is no such thing. America's own motives may have been purely humane, but if outside force was needed it was because an armed local power struggle was already taking place. In such circumstances the odds were high of getting caught in the middle — or, worse, on one side of the

battle. The lesson is not necessarily to stay out of such conflicts, but to know what you are getting into and that it will involve more than handing out food to grateful children.

The second mistake took place under UN command, not U.S., but flowed logically from Mr. Bush's initial error. Through gross insensitivity to Somali politics, the United Nations stumbled into a military confrontation with a major local warlord, Mohammed Farrah Aidid. That battle raised the military stakes beyond what member states were actually prepared to support. The United Nations should have more carefully limited its role to that of a neutral referee, protecting civilians and nudging all sides toward political agreement. That approach is now being followed with some success by the current UN special representative, Lansana Kouyaté.

A scaling down of UN peacekeeping ambitions reopens the question of American participation. Mainly as a result of the Somalia experience, the utopian unilateralism with which some Clintonites started out last year has already been sharply re-evaluated. Now there is a risk that Washington could go too far the other way, shying away from U.S. military participation in any UN peacekeeping mission, however carefully conceived, however easily serving American interests.

One lesson of Somalia is that the United Nations should now take a much harder look before leaping and accept that some situations are simply too volatile for successful peacekeeping. In others, the United Nations may decide to go ahead, but the United States may choose to stand aside to avoid presenting too inviting or too provocative a target.

But there will be instances when America will want to do its fair share, and in numbers sufficient to protect its forces should they come under fire. Somalia has been a hard but valuable learning experience. There will come a time to put those lessons to good use.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Turks, Kurds and Allies

The trouble in Turkey's predominantly Kurdish southeast keeps sharpening, even as elections may weaken the party of Prime Minister Tansu Ciller. The confluence has created worry among U.S. government officials who know the value of Turkish stability.

The elections yesterday were municipal and local ones that ordinarily would not matter outside the country's borders. But they come on the heels of a series of economic and other mishaps for the Ankara government that have helped drive the prime minister's party low in the polls and rightist and Islamic forces up — a worrisome development in a country with wars along two peripheries (the Balkans and the Caucasus) and terrorist pressure from Kurdish "separatism" within.

The most volatile recent move was the widely condemned decision by Mrs. Ciller's government to jail seven representatives in parliament of the legal Kurdish party. That constitutes suppressing the main outlet for Kurdish aspirations short of the separate terrorists. As that were not bad enough, it required first stripping the deputies of their parliamentary immunity from prosecution.

Even under stable political conditions, the spectacle of lawmakers being taken directly from parliament into custody, there to be tried for "advocating and promoting separatism" when they were supposedly immune from prosecution, would have been very happy effect on the international standing of a country.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Whitewater Developments

The aim of President Bill Clinton's prime time televised news conference and the release of his old tax returns was to demonstrate openness and willingness to cooperate with all Whitewater-related investigations. He certainly did himself some good. During the press conference on Thursday, he sounded confident. People were asking why he had not spoken thus before, instead of responding this way only after weeks of extensive news coverage, the subpoenaing of 11 administration aides, the forced departure of a White House counsel, angry words in Congress over Whitewater hearings and a sharp drop in the polls.

The new information plus the release on Friday of the Clintons' tax returns for 1977 to 1979 did add some of the questions that had been raised about their business dealings in Arkansas and their subsequent handling of the controversy concerning those details.

The president said that the couple's claim during the presidential campaign that they lost \$68,900 on their Whitewater investment was wrong. The loss turns out to be more like \$46,000, the accumulated interest paid on their half-share of the \$203,000 loan they took out with James and Susan McDougal to buy the Whitewater property. His explanation was that he had overestimated the loss by \$22,445 because that amount was mistakenly applied to the Whitewater account when it actually represented a loan and interest payments he took out to help buy his mother a house.

Mr. Clinton's press conference did not, of course, dispose of all the issues that have been raised in this complex affair. One is whether, as

was alleged but certainly not proved, the Clintons' Whitewater venture skimmed federally insured deposits from the failed Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan and David Hale's ill-fated Capital Management Services, which was licensed and financially backed by the Small Business Administration. L. Jean Lewis, the Resolution Trust Corporation's senior investigator on Madison, asserts that "Whitewater did cause a loss to Madison," which benefited James McDougal and his business partners, the Clintons. Noting that Whitewater was showing no cash flow while its mortgages and notes were being paid, Ms. Lewis asked hypothetically in a note: If the Clintons "aren't putting money into the venture, and you also know the venture isn't cash flowing, wouldn't you question the source of the funds being used for your benefit?" This, too, needs an answer.

In addition, the way the week ended with reports of an attempt by a senior White House official to change the terms of a possible Resolution Trust Corporation civil prosecution added to the Washington part of the morass. There is still much under investigation concerning whether important White House staff members have behaved improperly in respect to the RTC investigation. And there are the charges made by Republican Representative Jim Leach. The special counsel and probable congressional inquiries still have much to do to resolve the contradictory assertions that have been made and to ascertain the extent to which administration personnel may have trespassed into the business of the Resolution Trust Corporation.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Asians Should Help

By Gerald Segal

LONDON — Another crisis in Korea, and yet again it is the United States and other Western powers who are in the lead, with China and most East Asian nations seeming to be dragged behind. Why are France and Britain more exercised about the prospect of North Korea acquiring nuclear weapons than the countries of Southeast Asia? Can it be that East Asia is yet again to fail a test of leadership and of shrewd strategy?

Part of the explanation is that Europeans and Americans worry that North Korea will spread nuclear weapons and technology to the Middle East and Europe, while East Asians worry about a cornered North Korea lashing out in anger.

Another part of the explanation is that East Asian political culture seems averse to discussing problems openly. The political culture of the Atlantic world stresses openness and directness.

East Asians also tend to believe that once the benefits of economic growth permeate a region, messy matters such as ethnicity, religion and military affairs will not be allowed to upset stability. Many states in East Asia, especially the richer ones, have grown gung-ho. By getting misty-eyed about the power of economics, they develop an unbalanced sense of security and strategy.

These states claim to believe in "comprehensive security" rather than relying primarily on military deterrence. Unlike Europe, which worked with and fought alongside America during and after the Cold War, most East Asian nations have let the United States defend them.

During the Cold War, America



ances and defense cooperation together is coming unstuck.

For the time being, the United States seems prepared to defend the stability and security of East Asia. It seeks to prevent North Korea from acquiring a nuclear capability that would threaten South Korea and Japan and set off a chain reaction of proliferation in the region. However, by appearing to find excuses for inaction, East Asians risk sending a "Yankee go home" signal.

A United States that already sees East Asia as a place from which trade deficits come will not be pleased to see that it is also a place which will not defend itself or help America to do so.

It used to be thought that the problem with post-Cold War security in East Asia was that the United States would go home. Now, at least in the short term, it seems that when push looks like coming to shove on the Korean Peninsula, key East Asian countries do not want America to remain as a defensive shield and strategic counterweight to regional bullies.

To be sure, there have been signs

that the rationale for Fidel Castro accepting nuclear weapons from the Soviet Union in 1962. But whatever the cause, the result is a challenge to regional and global security.

The prospect of a nuclear-armed North Korea should be a matter of grave concern to all in East Asia. Nor should East Asians feel that proliferation is merely a problem for other regions.

If they really feel this way, they must contemplate a nuclear-armed Japan, a nuclear-armed South Korea and a very dangerous standoff in the Taiwan Strait between China and Taiwan, both having nuclear weapons. Such a scenario would be profoundly destabilizing, and bad for business.

Should East Asia fail the test and make it impossible for the United States and the rest of West to stand firm against North Korea, it must be prepared for the time when the West will leave the region to its own devices — and to the whims of local bullies.

The writer, a senior fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London and editor of *The Pacific Review*, contributed this comment to the Herald Tribune.

America Can't Approve Greece's Balkan Mischief

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — Beware of Greeks Daring Riffs. There's a motto to guide President Bill Clinton as he prepares for a crucial meeting next month on the future of the Balkans with Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou.

Forced by nationalist sentiment into a bellicose position, Mr. Papandreou is pushing his nation's conflict with the young Balkan state of Macedonia to the breaking point. Due in Washington on April 22, the Greek leader is confident that America and Western Europe will back NATO ally Greece rather than the fledgling ex-Yugoslav republic.

But that is not the real choice that Mr. Clinton and the leaders of the European Union face. They need to focus on the growing danger that Greek actions could cause the Balkan war to spread once again — even as fighting lessens in Bosnia.

Greece in recent weeks has embarked on a campaign that seems intended to destabilize the centrist Macedonian regime of President Kiro Gligorov, who is committed to developing a free market economy and to coordinating Macedonia's multiethnic population and the country's large, well-armed neighbors, Greece and Serbia.

Even as the United States, which has 340 soldiers in Macedonia, weighs sending more American peacekeepers, Greek military planning is proceeding for the Greek army to establish a "security zone" 30 or more kilometers into Macedonia if civil disorder erupts there, intelligence reports show.

The Greeks are pursuing a slow-motion military buildup on their northern frontier and a punishing economic blockade of Macedonia that has depleted Macedonia's scarce foreign reserves. These steps, which increase the chance for upheaval in Macedonia, give credence to reports that Greece and Serbia have already agreed to carve up Mr.

Gligorov's country if the conflicts of the other ex-Yugoslav republics spill over there.

The carpe-up agreement, reported to Washington by European governments, was supposedly reached in 1992 between the Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic and the then Greek prime minister Constantine Mitsotakis. Belgrade and Athens have denied these reports, but the brinkmanship by Mr. Papandreou, who replaced Mr. Mitsotakis after national elections last October, keeps them alive.

The Clinton administration has a direct strategic stake in defusing that brinkmanship. Mr. Clinton ordered U.S. troops into Macedonia last year to deter Serbia from extending its war on Bosnia southward. The Pentagon plans to send another 200 U.S. soldiers to the Macedonian capital of Skopje soon if, as expected, Scandinavian troops now on duty there move across the border to help keep order in Bosnia.

The U.S. presence is intended to shore up Mr. Gligorov's government and bolster the public warning given by Mr. Clinton and by George Bush that the United States would not stand by and watch the Serbs extend violent "ethnic cleansing" into the Albanian-inhabited province of Kosovo.

Those presidential warnings reflect U.S. fears of a nightmare scenario: trouble in Kosovo erupts, triggering massive refugee flows into neighboring Macedonia, which is overwhelmed. Albania, Bulgaria, Greece and/or Turkey could then be tempted to intervene.

Greece's contingency planning is centered on the possibility that a tidal wave of Kosovar refugees sets off chaos in the region and threatens ethnic

Greeks living in Macedonia. Nearly 2 million people, most of them Slavic and a sizable minority Albanian, live in the poor, mountainous region.

But Greece's unrelenting hostility to Macedonia raises questions about its true intentions. Greece has refused for two years to recognize Macedonia on the grounds that the country's name amounts to a territorial claim on the Greek northern province of Macedonia. The Greeks demand that Macedonia change its name and its flag, and eliminate phrases in its constitution that promote to defend Macedonians abroad.

Greece has unsuccessfully sought to keep the United States and Western Europe from recognizing Macedonia. Mr. Papandreou said he was sending a "signal" to those who had recognized Macedonia with his Feb. 16 decision to close Greece's frontier with that landlocked country and ban Skopje's use of the Greek port of Saloniaka, which normally handles 70 percent of Macedonia's imports and exports.

"Murder without bullets" is what Macedonians call the economic war that Greece is waging on their country, whose agricultural exports and energy imports have ground to a halt. International aid and investment for Macedonia are hostage to Athens' campaign, which threatens to bring Mr. Gligorov down and put in power the radical Macedonian nationalist forces that Mr. Gligorov has sought to contain.

Only Greeks blinded by territorial ambition could want that outcome. The April White House meeting will be a chance for Mr. Clinton to gauge Mr. Papandreou's intentions — and to make clear that even old allies cannot demand U.S. support for destabilizing and dangerous policies.

The Washington Post.

The Central Asian Scenario Hasn't Turned Out Rosy

By Nicholas Platt

Wahabis financed by Saudi Arabia, Shias by Iran, Sunnis by Turkey, are all building mosques and competing for followers. What used to prevail in Central Asia was a mild Sunni form of Islam tempered by the benign influence of the Sufi poets.

Now the situation is more intense and contentious. It is certainly not conducive to concerted action.

The prospects for regional political unity seem dim. Ancient ethnic and tribal tensions lie just below the surface, particularly between Uzbek, Tajik and Kyrgyz, all living together in states whose boundaries were based on economic and political factors. Tajikistan is the most serious case.

Others saw great economic vistas — opportunities for trade and investment with countries of Central Asia for the first time to turn outward. Politicians, planners and businessmen from Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, China and America looked at the region with expectation.

Two years later, a much more realistic assessment is emerging.

After a visit to four of the five Central Asian republics, and extensive discussions with leaders and ordinary people, I would call it "The Ruined Empire Tour." We were traveling through the broken pieces of the Soviet imperial structure, pieces no longer able to relate effectively to each other or to a disconnected and confused center in Moscow. We were also seeing spectacular shards of earlier empires in the region, those of Genghis Khan, Tamerlane and the Mongols.

The vision of a united belt of Islamic states capable of playing a strategic role is a mirage. The practice of the Muslim faith has indeed benefited from the fall of the Soviet empire: more mosques are being built, and the educational institutions that go with them: more people are attending prayers. But Islam in the region has been split since the 7th century, and the opening of the republics to outside influences has introduced contending brands of sectarianism.

soon. There is potential — oil, gas, gold, chromium — and investors are interested. Meanwhile, their economies shrink and inflation is rampant.

Russia is not sure what to do with these new republics. There is agreement that vital strategic interests are involved, borders must be protected, ethnic rivalries controlled, foreign influences checked, ethnic Russians upheld, and access to natural resources maintained. But how?

The former Soviet Union could not afford its worldwide strategic pretensions; post-empires Russia probably cannot afford a more modest vision limited to forming contiguous regions. Moscow's economic policy managers argue that they do not have the financial strength to include Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan in the ruble zone. In effect, Russia has cut them adrift.

Yet the infrastructure of all these countries ties them to Russia. Kazakhstan, for example, refined oil from Russia in its western region while producing oil for Russian refineries in the east. In two years, its production and refining facilities will be joined by a pipeline, but even then Kazakh oil will have to use Russian pipelines to reach the outside world.

Today's problems in the Central Asian republics will continue for years. Half-measures and partial solutions will remain the order of the day. Russian troops will continue to guard the borders of these countries, with their acquisitiveness. But this alone will not provide Moscow with the leverage to have its own way in disputes over ethnic Russian rights, trade and investment flows, and monetary policy.

Some republics will retain enough independence to devise their own solutions to these issues. However, Russia's looming presence will mean that for years to come the first priority of Central Asian states will be relations with Russia and the Russians.

Outside influence, although limited, will be much larger than before and should continue to grow. The combination of

the bitter machine-gum fighting and hand-to-hand encounters in which the division took part up to five days before the signing of the armistice.

1944: Invasion Nears

LONDON — [From our New York edition] Prime Minister Churchill in a grim warning to Germany and a glowing promise of deliverance for the peoples of Nazi-dominated Europe, promised tonight [March 27] that when the signal is given the whole circle of avenging nations will hurl themselves upon the foe and batter out the life of the cruellest tyranny that has ever sought to bar the progress of mankind. Mr. Churchill called upon the British to steel themselves as their nation's hour of greatest effort approached. In his guarded reference to the forthcoming invasion of the Continent, the Prime Minister instructed his listeners not to be upset by the many false alarms, feints and dress rehearsals which he said must be staged to baffle the enemy.

The writer, a professor at the University of Southern California School of Medicine, led a human rights delegation to Chiapas in January. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1894: A Woman Mayor

NEW YORK — Pleasanton Kansas is the only town in the United States now presided over by a woman mayor. She is Mrs. Annie S. Austin who was elected over Mr. J. W. Primer, a hardware merchant. Mrs. Austin was nominated on a citizen's ticket, and her opponent was the head of a business men's ticket. Politics were ignored. The issues of the campaign were liberality with liquor-dealers and gamblers for revenue, against which predominating policy. Mrs. Austin was, of course, arrayed. She was elected by only twenty votes.

1919: Troops Decorated

SEUR (Civ d'Or) — The 78th Division was reviewed this afternoon [March 25] by General Pershing, who decorated five officers and twenty-six soldiers for gallantry in action during the fighting at the Saint-Mihiel salient, in the Argonne forest, and during

A Constructive, Long-Term Chinese-U.S. Relationship

By Henry Kissinger

NEW YORK — The debate evoked by Secretary of State Warren Christopher's Beijing sit has been too much about whether his mission "failed" to promote human rights. The more consideration ought to be whether America's overall political relationship with perhaps the key country for long-term stability in Asia is being put at risk.

The public confrontation in Beijing was all the more dramatic because it occurred at the end of a period steadily improving American-Chinese relations. In October, President Bill Clinton lifted the ban on cabinet-level meetings that had been in effect since the Beijing uprising in 1989; shortly after, he met with President Jiang Zemin. Many cabinet-level meetings followed, including several between Mr. Christopher and the Chinese foreign minister, Qian Qichen.

The administration, using the formula that it was challenging certain Chinese practices and not the Communist system, significantly reduced its terms for extension of most-favored-nation status. The Chinese leaders had hinted at a willingness to accommodate concerns not found to be incompatible with Chinese law — an elastic criterion.

What then went awry with a visit that had reasonably been expected to culminate this progress? The chief problem was conceptual. The administration, very conscious of domestic pressures, seemed to think that the Chinese "owed" it human rights concessions in return for restoring high-level contacts.

The Chinese, implementing traditional diplomacy, base concessions on reciprocity; they consider that they are entitled to the same unconditional high-level contacts extended to

them by all other nations. They therefore evaluate their concessions in terms of reciprocal acts that benefit them. They do not view the removal of a unilateral threat as a concession, and they are extraordinarily touchy regarding any hint of intervention in their domestic affairs. So long as human rights remain the principal subject of the Chinese-American dialogue, deadlock is nearly inevitable.

Nevertheless, the deadlock is not irretrievable. The issue is not, as is sometimes claimed, whether America should abandon its pursuit of human rights altogether, but how to pursue its values in balance with other crucial aspects of the complex U.S.-Chinese relationship.

The fundamental motivation of U.S. human rights policy rests deep within the American tradition. No other nation has so explicitly founded to vindicate liberty or been populated as extensively by refugees. The American experience has therefore infused foreign policy with a unique missionary quality. Other nations need to take this attitude seriously; to most Americans, the national interest cannot be separated from some concern for human rights.

On the other hand, America's perceptions of itself as the defender of global human rights is so ingrained that we Americans too often forget how unique that perspective is compared to the way other nations view foreign policy. Every other major country perceives foreign policy as the balancing of risks and rewards so as to affect the actions of other societies outside their borders. What Americans call human rights have generally been deemed to fall within the

domestic jurisdiction of societies and thus not to be the subject of diplomacy.

The State Department insists that it is not pressing the Chinese government to change its domestic institutions, only to live up to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The fact remains that no other signatory of that United Nations document has invoked it in its China policy. This raises the question of whether it is an obligation of the United States to enforce every United Nations document unilaterally, even when all the other signatories ignore it.

In short, the American human rights approach to China elicits next to no support from most other governments. Not a single Asian nation supports it; not one of them would stand with America if a major crisis resulted.

Proud insistence on sovereignty is a particular attribute of the Chinese government. Western intervention is perceived as an uninterrupted humiliation since the Opium Wars, although America is blamed less than other societies.

To base Chinese-U.S. relations entirely on progress toward human rights will therefore mortgage both the underlying relationship as well as progress on human rights.

It is also a distortion of reality, since America can objectively go beyond the promotion of human rights. It has become commonplace to point out that China has the world's fastest growing economy and that its population of more than a billion represents the single largest market. To exclude the United States from these prospects is not a trivial decision — especially as every other industrial nation will eagerly fill a vacuum left by America.

More importantly, Asia is both the most dynamic region of the world and the one with the greatest potential to threaten world peace.

Its nations have not developed the patterns of cooperation that emerged in Europe after World War II. In Asia, there is no equivalent of NATO, the European Union or the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Like the nations of 19th century Europe, the Asian states eye each other as potential strategic competitors and conduct their relationships at least in part on the basis of geopolitics. Fostering an Asian equilibrium is therefore central to world peace and must be a key objective of American diplomacy.

Stability to Asia is most likely if China and the United States participate. Conflict with China would require Washington to organize all the rest of Asia against Beijing. While an overbearing Chinese foreign policy could at some point drive American foreign policy to such an expedient, nothing in the contemporary world calls for a policy of isolating China, especially at a moment when the United States also is confronting Japan over trade issues. No Asian country will participate in a policy of isolating China over human rights; America will only wind up isolating itself and losing its ability to shape a stable order.

America and China have a parallel interest in equilibrium in Asia. As the Shanghai Communiqué of 1972 emphasized, both countries have their reasons for opposing the domination of Asia by a single country.

China wants the United States to help balance its relationships with powerful neighbors — Japan, Russia and India — at least until it is strong enough to do so on its own. The United States needs Chinese cooperation on these matters as well as on a peaceful evolution of the future of Taiwan, on nuclear proliferation in North Korea, and on the transfer of weapons technology.

These are the sort of issues which should be key elements of the Chinese-American dialogue at least for the next decade.

If they moved to the center of Chinese-American relationships, they would facilitate human rights issues by providing a strategic context. In the course of their country's long history, China's leaders have frequently taken account of the special needs of their counterparts, provided such an action also served Chinese interests. What they will not accept, or will accept only under extreme duress, is the implication that America bestows its cooperation as a special favor to be withheld at will.

The element of reciprocity has been sorely missing in current Chinese-American relations. The United States put forward a catalogue of human rights in return for which it offers the extension of most-favored-nation status — something which to the Chinese looks like the temporary lifting of unilateral blackmail. And although high-level contacts have been resumed and seem to be progressing on the economic side, they are clearly secondary in the political area to maneuvering on trade status.

In my view, the principal reason for the aura of confrontation during Mr. Christopher's visit to Beijing was the neurotic Chinese reaction to unilateral demands, compounded by a publicity that focused nearly exclusively on human rights. In the prelude to the visit — including at several stops on the secretary's



trip — it was stated officially and repeatedly that the Chinese leaders knew what they had to do on human rights, implying that the U.S. delegation came for the primary purpose of evaluating Chinese concessions.

The Chinese, having a tendency to consider every gesture as symbolic, interpreted the designation of the assistant secretary for human rights, John Shattuck, as "advocate man" for the secretary's trip as a signal that human rights were to be its principal focus. The stage having been set for a confrontation, the Chinese side showed its own skill at devising provocative acts, such as harassing dissidents on the eve of Mr. Christopher's arrival.

The basic challenge remains: if the United States' interest in China is primarily human rights, the tactic of public pressures is appropriate. And it may even work. There is, however, a high risk of trapping both sides in a choice between capitulation and confrontation. The administration may be tempted to continue watering down both its demands and its penalties until its apparent victories are largely public relations exercises. The Chinese may repeat their self-inflicted wounds of the 1950s when they expelled all Soviet advisers for being too intrusive. The victim of such a process will be the U.S.-Chinese political relationship that is key to Asian stability.

But if, as I believe, America has other objectives that it must serve simultaneously, then a more reciprocal pattern is necessary.

An alternative approach would not require America to abandon the current reduced list of human rights objectives, although some may have to be modified in the course of negotiations. It does, however, call for clear presidential leadership outlining American purposes and strategy with respect to China.

Such a statement needs to set forth the importance attached to U.S.-Chinese cooperation in specific areas and on specific topics; it cannot merely be a shopping list of U.S. priorities.

At the same time, such a document could emphasize the need for each side to take into account the special concerns of the other — a phrase that Beijing will surely understand as referring to American human rights concerns. I believe that a reduction of public pressures will produce a genuine broadening of the dialogue will be of both sides. China should understand that a concern for human rights in some form is not an administration idiosyncrasy but inherent in the American value system as expressed in congressional pressures.

The Clinton administration should recognize that China's interest in American relations is based on its expectation of cooperation on global or at least Asian strategy. For that objective, it may well be prepared to make human rights concessions, provided they can be presented as having emerged from its own free choice.

The U.S. Congress should understand that, beyond a certain point, public pressures tend to produce the opposite of what is intended, as was the case with the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. Congressional concern has been clearly demonstrated; the administration should be permitted to address it quietly on its own.

The short-term objective of a renewed Chinese-American dialogue should be to achieve sufficient progress to enable the administration to de-link human rights from trade status once and for all. Afterward, the United States would pursue human rights objectives in a manner compatible with Chinese dignity and via normal diplomatic processes within the context of an overall political and strategic dialogue.

From my knowledge of the leaders of both sides, these goals are within reach provided the focus remains on fundamentals, especially on the importance for both countries of a constructive long-term Chinese-American relationship.

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Appeasers of China's Rulers Should Be Ashamed

By A. M. Rosenthal

and political imperialists trying to push around a bunch of dignified old Confucians.

The truth is that nobody is dreaming of "forcing" Western democracy on Communist China; such a sinful thought. American human rights policy asks simply that Beijing permit some of the freedoms to which it is already pledged as a member of the United Nations and signatory to a variety of international conventions. For example: the right to dissent without being arrested, tortured and imprisoned for years; the right of Tibet to negotiate for at least partial freedom after a half-century of Chinese captivity.

Please, please do these things, the United States begs. If not, at last we will have to do what Congress has demanded for years — refuse to cooperate with Chinese despotism by continuing the low tariff rates that oil its economy.

Forget that sociodivine about Confucianist traditions being at odds with "Western" human rights. The Chinese dissident Fang Lizhi puts it straight in the Los Angeles Times: The Communists fight human rights not because they are Confucianists but because they are Leninists. For all its increasing armed power, Beijing, like all dictatorships, knows the greater power of creeping freedom.

Is there one member of the China lobby who respects himself enough to speak the truth? Listen, American businessmen are in China to make money in a cheap labor market. If U.S.

human rights policy interferes with that by upsetting the Communists, to hell with it.

We get only the pious line about how a strong Chinese economy will bring more human rights — presumably as under the economies of imperial Japan and Hitler's Germany.

Decision time for President Bill Clinton is May or June. He is being pulled one way and another. A president gets paid to be pulled one way or another — and remain true to his word.

Rumors float: The fit is in for Beijing, the lobby has won. Government officials of honor say that no, the struggle goes on, and I believe them. Maybe Beijing will make the concessions. Those low tariffs mean a lot to them. The dictatorship will not change much. At least the United States will have kept faith with the people in the torture cells.

But the American businesses in the China lobby that they have lost already. They have shown themselves panting eager to use the greatest American asset — the economic power created by free labor and capitalist strength — to bolster a government built on controlled labor and police strength. They certainly will not be respected in China.

At home? Certainly it has happened before — the arming of foreign dictatorships that prostitutes American idealism, endangers American security and produces a new generation of American cynics. But that does not make it any easier for Americans who believe in political freedom to watch, excuse or forget.

The New York Times.

T2 Class Champion

1994 Paris-Dakar-Paris Rally

1993 Pharaohs Rally

1993 Baja Aragon Spain

1993 Baja Portugal

1993 Baja Sardinia

1993 Atlas Rally

1993 Rally of Tunisia

1993 Paris-Dakar

Credentials

The Mitsubishi Pajero's long list of T2 class victories proves the durability and driveability of Mitsubishi cars on the highway

Under the harshest conditions, a Mitsubishi does more than survive; it conquers. The Pajero's record in the T2 class at rallies proves it.

T2 cars are regular production vehicles with only basic modifications for racing. They're very similar to the cars you see on the highway. In long-distance rallies, these T2 cars are pitted against conditions no ordinary driver should have to endure — blinding sandstorms, bone-chilling snow, searing heat.

Only an extremely durable vehicle can drive under such

trying conditions. The Pajero's long list of victories shows the strength and reliability of our technology — the same technology found in Mitsubishi vehicles on highways all over the world.

So when you drive a Mitsubishi, you can just enjoy a relaxing cruise. You don't have to conquer knee-deep mud, treacherous ice at high speeds or mysterious unmapped courses in the Sahara Desert. We've already done it for you. But you always have that option.

MITSUBISHI PAJERO
In some countries the Mitsubishi Pajero is called the Montero.



CREATING TOGETHER

WEEKLY INTERNATIONAL BOND PRICES

Provided by Credit Suisse First Boston Limited, London, Tel: 322 40 00. Prices may vary according to market conditions and other factors.

March 26

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MUTUAL FUNDS

Close of trading Friday, March 25

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New International Bond Issues

Compiled by Laurence Desvilets

Issuer	Amount (millions)	Mat.	Coup. %	Price end week	Terms
Floating Rate Notes					
Borings Brothers	\$150	2001	3%	99.44	— Over 3-month Libor. Redemable or par from 1999. Fees 0.25%. (CS First Boston)
Comit Finance (Jersey)	\$50	2004	3%	99%	— Below 6-month Libor. Minimum interest 5%. Funds with outstanding issue, raising total amount to \$150 million. Fees not disclosed. (Banca Commerciale Italiana)
South Australian Government Financing Authority	\$500	1996	libor	100	— Interest will be the 3-month Libor. Noncallable. Fees 0.10%. Denominations \$10,000. (Swiss Bank Corp.)
Fixed-Coupons					
European Investment Bank	DM 1,000	2004	6%	101.65	99.20 Noncallable. Fees 1.40%. (Deutsche Bank)
Toyota Motor Credit Corp.	FF 840	1995	7.63	100	— Interest will be 7.63% if libor is within a defined range. Noncallable. Fees not disclosed. Denominations 1 million francs. (Banque Paribas)
Deutsche Bank Finance	m. 500,000	2004	zero	43.15	42.10 Yield 9.02%. Reoffered at 42.15. Noncallable. Proceeds 213 billion lire. Fees 1.50%. (Deutsche Bank)
KFW Int'l Finance	m. 200,000	1999	6%	100.80	98.00 Noncallable. Fees 1.00%. (Deutsche Bank)
Abbey National Treasury Services	ECU 100	1999	6%	100.12	97.90 Reoffered at 98.54%. Noncallable. Fees 1.00%. (Societe Generale)
Credit Local de France	ECU 150	2001	6%	100.65	97.40 Reoffered at 99.12%. Noncallable. Fees 1.00%. (Credit Lyonnais)
General Electric Capital Corp.	ECU 100	1999	6%	101.215	98.15 Reoffered at 99.59%. Noncallable. Fees 1.00%. (Credit Lyonnais)
Rabobank Nederland	CS 150	1999	7%	100.833	97.90 Reoffered at 99.23%. Noncallable. Fees 1.00%. (Barclays de Zoete Wedd.)
Panasonic Finance	Y 10,000	1997	3.15	100	— Interest will be 3.15% until July 1996, thereafter 3.80%. Noncallable. Fees 0.1875%. Denominations 100 million yen. (BSI Int'l)
Equity-Limited					
Mitsubishi Oil Company	\$250	1998	1/4	100	— Noncallable. Each \$10,000 note with two warrants exercisable into company shares of 1,000 yen per share and of 107.30 yen per dollar. Fees 2.04%. (Yamada Int'l Europe)
Alcatel Alsthom	FF 5,000	2004	2%	—	Issue price is 800 francs per note. Redemption of maturity will be at 1,078 francs. Convertible to 800 francs per share, a 13.51% premium. Fees 2.50%. (Societe Generale)

SHORT COVER

Air France Gives Unions Deadline

PARIS (Reuters) — Fourteen unions have until Thursday to agree to a plan that commits the airline to boosting productivity by 30 percent over three years, Air France said Sunday.

Christian Blanc, chairman of Air France, and unions wound up 20 boxes of talks early Sunday on a restructuring plan designed to cut huge losses at the state-run airline.

A spokesman for the CGT, a union whose delegation walked out of a meeting on Saturday, said the union opposed plans to cut jobs, freeze wages for three years and extend working hours.

An Air France spokesman said Mr. Blanc insisted that all unions must endorse the plan and he would consult the airline's 40,000 staff directly if any of the unions refused to sign.

Another German Union Settles Early

FRANKFURT (Reuters) — Employers and unions in Germany's construction industry agreed Saturday to a pay rise of 2.4 percent after a third round of wage talks.

Pay for East German workers in the sector will be raised on Sept. 1 to 90 percent of West German levels, from 85 percent at present, representatives from unions and employers said at the end of the two days of talks.

The IG Bau-Steine-Erden union had originally demanded a 6 percent pay rise and had called for equality between East and West German wage levels in the industry. Earlier this month IG Metall, the country's largest union, reached an accord with employers.

Lourho Considers Noncash Dividend

LONDON (Bloomberg) — Lourho PLC is considering giving shareholders the choice of a dividend in the form of corporate securities instead of cash. Chairman Rene Leclezio said at the company's annual meeting.

The company has about 768.3 million shares outstanding and could expect to save nearly £30 million (\$44.7 million) annually at last year's payout level. Scripts offered by other companies have recently met with shareholder approval, including a vote of 92 percent for a recent move by Burmah Castrol PLC.

Broken Hill Unfazed by Weak Prices

SYDNEY (AFP) — Broken Hill Pty., Australia's largest publicly traded company, said Sunday that it could maintain production and sales at current levels even though commodity prices would continue to fall.

John Prescott, chief executive of the mining and resources company, said that it would seek to maintain its high earnings level even though it would have "a real challenge" in sustaining its performance. BHP announced last week that its minerals division had lifted overall results to a net profit of 284.2 million Australian dollars (\$202.3 million), up 26 percent from a year ago and higher than most market forecasts.

"We are going into a period of lower coal prices, lower iron ore prices and on top of that petroleum prices remain depressed," he said.

Disney Weighs Opening Animal Park

ORLANDO, Florida (Reuters) — Walt Disney World's fourth Orlando theme park, which could open as early as 1997, will mix wild animals with nature walks and elaborate thrill rides, the Orlando Sentinel reported, citing a confidential marketing video.

Disney sources cautioned that although the basic concepts will remain the same, the park's design is constantly being revised, the newspaper said.

The Sentinel's report, based on viewings of the marketing video, said the animal park would have a strong conservation theme.

A giant tree of life, the park's icon, would rise in the midst of the setting in the style of the famous Cinderella's Castle.

The lands may include a "Beastly Kingdom," which features imaginary animals from storybooks and fairy tales; a "Dinoland," Disney's answer to Jurassic Park, which invites guests on an archeological dig and takes them back in time to rescue dinosaurs from extinction; "Africa," where guests can see wild animals, and witness the capture of poachers, who threaten the environment; "Asia," which features rides through simulated rain forests.

India Reported Buying Hawk Planes

LONDON (Bloomberg) — India is expected to buy £940 million (\$1.4 billion) worth of British Aerospace PLC's Hawk aircraft, the Sunday Telegraph reported, citing Indian Defense Ministry sources.

The deal was discussed between the prime ministers, John Major and Narasimha Rao, and is the culmination of three years of talks, the newspaper said. The agreement is expected to involve the purchase of 66 Hawks and may be followed by orders for 84 Hawks, bringing the sales total to £2 billion, the paper said.

Singapore Airlines Weighs Orders

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Singapore Airlines plans to order up to 52 aircraft valued at about 10 billion Singapore dollars (\$6.31 billion) in the next few months, the Business Times reported Saturday.

The newspaper quoted a spokesman of the airline saying that it had asked Boeing Co. and Airbus Industrie to make bids to supply the aircraft. The spokesman said the orders were necessary to enable the airline to continue to grow at 8 to 10 percent a year.

Li Ka-shing Sets Chongqing Project

HONG KONG (Reuters) — Li Ka-shing, a Hong Kong billionaire, is launching a real estate development in China costing about 1 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$129 million), according to the Beijing-controlled newspaper Wen Wei Po.

The project, undertaken by a unit of Mr. Li's flagship Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd., will be in the city of Chongqing in Sichuan province, the Hong Kong-based daily said.

For the Record

Modern Terminals Ltd., a container terminal operator, is negotiating with China Merchant Steam Navigation to buy an interest in China's port of Shekou, the South China Sunday Morning Post reported.

Toshiba Corp., NEC Corp., Hitachi Ltd., Mitsubishi Electric Corp. and Fujitsu Ltd. — five major Japan's makers of semiconductors — are expected to show combined capital investment rising 10 percent in April.

Bangkok Bank and Siam Commercial Bank, two Thai banks, raised their prime lending rate by one-quarter point to 10.25 percent, effective Monday.

With other banks expected to follow suit next week. (AP)

Is the Fed's New Trumpet Deafening Markets?

By Floyd Norris
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The Federal Reserve Board, after years of complaints, is finally trying to be less secretive. Unfortunately, both Wall Street and the media are finding it difficult to adjust to the new openness.

The problem is that the old way of looking at the Fed was to assume that it was trying to keep secrets. When a Fed chairman actually announced a policy, in unambiguous language, it was clearly an important event. And the financial markets reacted, or overreacted, accordingly.

So when the Fed announced, first in early February, and then again last week, that it was pushing up the federal funds rate — the rate banks charge on loans to each other — by a quarter of a percentage point, it was treated as a big deal.

The markets dived in February, and, after a day's delay, did so again last week. To be sure, last week's cause concerned concern over Mexican instability, following the assassination of Luis Donaldo Colosio, the leading presidential candidate. But the Fed's moves have clearly unsettled investors.

In the old days, before this new burst of openness hit the Fed, moves in the federal funds rate were closely watched on Wall Street for signs of the Fed's intent.

But there are a lot of other things that

affect that rate, ranging from individual bank needs for capital to arcane technical and timing factors that can send the rate spiraling up or down temporarily.

So the rate got reported in the business section of the papers, not on page one.

When the Fed really wanted to send a message it did something else, most often move the discount rate, which is the rate it charges when it lends money to banks. Those moves were announced, and were treated as big things.

By announcing the federal funds moves, the Fed has created the perception it has made a major switch in monetary policy. In all probability, it has not, but is simply responding to criticism about secrecy.

With stock valuations at very high levels, however, there is a temptation to duck and run just in case this is the big one. In all probability, Robert Barbera, the former chief economist at Lehman Brothers, is right when he says this is a fairly typical stock market correction that begins after an economic recovery has picked up enough steam to start pushing up interest rates.

In the old days, before this new burst of openness hit the Fed, moves in the federal funds rate were closely watched on Wall Street for signs of the Fed's intent.

Last week, the Dow had its worst week since 1991, falling 3.1 percent, but it is off

just 5.1 percent from its high. The S&P 500 is down only 4.4 percent from its high.

The important point, however, is that the Fed's moves are unlikely to spoil the party on Main Street, even as they dampen spirits on Wall Street. Commodity prices are rising,

notes David Shulman, the chief equity strategist at Salomon Brothers Inc., and that is a sign of economic strength, not weakness.

■ Prospects for Still Higher Rates

Keith Bradsher of The New York Times

When top Federal Reserve officials decided on Feb. 4 to raise short-term interest rates slightly, they debated not whether, but how high, to raise them, according to a summary of their meeting released last week.

The nation's central bank raised the overnight rate for loans between banks — the federal funds rate — by a quarter of a point on Feb. 4, to 3.25 percent, the smallest move possible. The Fed raised it again last Tuesday to 3.5 percent.

The minutes from the Feb. 4 meeting, released on Friday, depict a committee surprisingly enthusiastic about raising rates. Some members of the Fed's policy-setting Federal Open Market Committee apparently wanted a large increase in February, the minutes show, and it was not clear that this week's increase would satisfy them.

Marc W. Wanshel, a Fed-watcher at J.P.

Morgan & Co., predicted after seeing the minutes that the Fed would raise rates at its next meeting on May 17, and maybe sooner.

"The debate clearly at the time was between those who wanted a large move and those who wanted a small move," Mr. Wanshel said. "Since they got the minimum amount possible, you can assume there are others that wanted more."

The increases, coupled with signs of strong economic growth and the selling of bonds by investment funds seeking to cover trading losses, have driven long-term interest rates to their highest levels since last summer.

The minutes say the committee believed that low interest rates were "highly stimulative" to the economy.

For the intervening period ahead, the members favored an adjustment toward a less accommodative policy stance, though views differed to some extent with regard to the amount of the adjustment," the minutes said.

The committee members compromised on Feb. 4 on a small increase partly because of concern that any increase at all might disrupt financial markets, particularly given the raise would be the first in five years.

Fed officials expressed concern on Feb. 4 that the economy was growing so fast that companies would soon be bidding up the prices of labor and goods, feeding inflation.

Clouds Thicken Over Bonds

By Robert Hurtado
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Investor concern that the economy is continuing to grow at a fast pace caused interest rates to surge last week, pushing the yield on the 30-year Treasury bond over 7 percent for the first time in 10 months.

The German central bank did shave short-term rates last week to 5.80 percent, but the timidity with which it has moved over the past month has done nothing to reassure the market about the longer-term trend.

Although analysts said a slow economic recovery this year would drive German rates to 4 percent or lower by year-end, financial markets now price the cost of three-month Deutsche marks at 5.2 percent in December. This is nearly a percentage point higher than the end-of-year cost of 4.3 percent posted in January.

Either this higher pricing is correct, in which case the sell-off in bonds is justified, or it is wrong and the Bundesbank needs to bring the market back to its senses. This is necessary because the level of German rates sets the tone for what happens for Europe.

For market participants, it is not only the signal from the futures market that is destabilizing conditions, but also the daily activity in the foreign-exchange market.

At the start of this year, the certificate on which trading strategies were based was that the Deutsche mark would be sickly. It was to be clipped against the dollar by a scissor action of rising U.S. rates and falling German rates. Also, it was to fall within Europe as recovery in Germany was expected to lag behind everyone else.

Thus the favored strategy was to buy non-German European bonds, particularly high-yielders from countries such as Britain, Sweden, Italy and Spain, where interest rates had the most room to fall — and potential capital gains were the highest — and to overlay this bond trade with a currency play.

The least expensive currency play was to borrow marks, whose short-term rates were the lowest in Europe, to finance the purchase of the bonds. The bond prices would rise, the mark would fall and the investors would be sitting on a bundle of profits, the theory went. The more adventurous leveraged their positions by selling marks for dollars, a relatively expensive operation as the cost to borrow the German currency was higher than the interest received on dollars.

This strategy backfired. Not only are bond prices worldwide down a bundle so far this year, but the unwinding of these positions requires that marks be purchased — driving up the value of the mark. That makes a loss on the bond holdings and a loss on the currency play.

Such unwinding would appear to explain why the mark is strong on the exchange market while the German bond and equity markets remain weak.

At this point, it becomes less clear whether it is the loss on the bond holding or the loss on the currency play that is driving marks lower.

A new overlay in the currency market is the social unrest in France, the political uncertainty in Italy and, implicit in the rising U.S. interest rates, concerns about inflation that appear to be helping to prop the mark upward.

Stock Ownership Comes to Beijing

Reuters

BEIJING — A steady stream of foreign investors lined up on Sunday for the first public share offering open to investors in the capital.

Dozens of branches of banks and other financial institutions opened over the weekend to allow people to buy applications for a minimum bid of 200 yuan (\$23). The sale will last three days.

An application conveys the right to buy 500 shares in one of four companies if drawn in a lottery. Even losers do not lose all, as the applications act like six-month certificates of deposit paying 9 percent annual interest.

"I plan to spend 2,000 yuan and would like to buy shares of the different companies," said one man standing in line at a bank.

"People will not spend all their money on this but just a portion," the man next to her said. "Share-hunting is still new to people in Beijing. It started earlier in South China, where people are more familiar with it."

The issue appeared to have been carefully prepared, with forms on sale at many outlets and police on guard to prevent disturbances. In 1992, frustrated would-be investors rioted in the southern city of Shenzhen after applications ran out.

The four companies are Beijing Department Store, Beijing Printing Machinery Co., Beijing Light Bus Co. and Beijing Town County Trade Center Co. The prices of individual stocks range from 3 to 8 yuan a share.

The issue, of 175 million shares

in total, is intended to raise 1.08 billion yuan, or the four companies, the Beijing Daily said Sunday.

■ Listing Delayed

A Chinese generator maker has postponed plans to list its stock on the Hong Kong exchange because of the market's fall in recent weeks, sources said on Sunday.

Dongfang Electrical Machinery Co. had been expected to offer class H shares worth about 350 million Hong Kong dollars (\$45 million) by the middle of next month. The H class of stock is reserved for Chinese companies traded on the Hong Kong exchange.

But a securities source, who asked not to be identified, said Dongfang's Hong Kong listing would be postponed to the end of April or May.

Another source said a further reason for the postponement was problems in completing the documents for listing.

Dongfang, which is based in Sichuan province, is the eighth Chinese company to seek a listing in Hong Kong under Beijing's plan to raise foreign capital for modernizing its state industries.

Most of the others were launched in the second half of 1993 in a bull market that came to an abrupt halt in January.

The latest, Yizheng Chemical Fiber Co., received a relatively muted response when it offered H shares in Hong Kong earlier this month.

The Hang Seng index has fallen 27 percent, to 9,234.21 points, at Friday's close from a record 12,599.23 on Jan. 4.

WORLD STOCKS IN REVIEW

By Agence France-Presse

Amsterdam

Amsterdam stocks are expected to be volatile this week after falling in line with last week's sinking dollar, a trend that hurts stocks of Dutch exporters.

The CBS all-share index closed last Friday at 272.10 points, down from 283.60 points the previous week.

Frankfurt

Optimism spread in the stock exchange last week, with several companies announcing promising results, before prices fell Friday, pushed down by a drop in bond prices in line with gloom on Wall Street.

The DAX-30 leading share index ended Friday at 2,130.05 points, down by 1.17 percent from the previous week.

Analysts said the exchange was likely to be more buoyant this week with hopes increasing for further reductions in interest rates. The Federation of German Banks said Thursday that German rates would continue to fall despite increases in U.S. rates.

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Matheson trading house to remove its stock from the local exchange.

Analysts said the market would be shaky again this week with much depending on the direction taken by Tokyo.

The blue-chip Hang Seng Index gained 101.90 points, 1.12 percent, to close the week's trading at 9,234.21 on Friday.

London

Shares plummeted after a series of poor indicators—including higher-than-expected 2.4 percent inflation for February—dashed hopes of a cut in interest rates. But analysts said the market would bounce back this week with bargain-hunters likely to be out in force.

The Financial Times Stock Exchange index of 100 leading shares fell briefly through the 3,100 barrier for the first time in four months, before closing Friday at 3,129—a weekly drop of 89.1 points, or 2.7 percent.

The Federal Reserve raised short-term rates a quarter point Tuesday, Germany cut its repurchase rate by 0.5 basis points Wednesday and the Bank of France cut its tender rate by 10 basis points the following day.

Disappointing results from Crédit Lyonnais and the huge government rescue plan for the bank depressed shares further Friday.

Milan

Buying ahead of Italy's general election pushed prices up on the Milan exchange last week. The Mibet index rose by 0.46 percent over the week, to 10,716 points.

Analysts said all eyes would turn this week to the outcome of the election. Brokers said the poll was expected to be inconclusive and

would be followed by a tense period of negotiation to form a coalition government.

Paris

The Bourse turned down last week, depressed by the weakness of the Bank of France's initiatives on interest rates and concerns over the assassination of the Mexican ruling party's presidential candidate.

The 225-issue Nikkei average closed at 19,836.48 yen on Friday, down 63.97 points or 3 percent from a week earlier.

Yasuo Ueki, general manager of equities operations at Nikko Securities Co., said dealers did not want to make significant moves late this week with only a week until the new fiscal year, beginning April 1.

Tokyo

Share prices fell last week, depressed by tension in Korea, a fall on Wall Street and concerns over the assassination of the Mexican ruling party's presidential candidate.

The 225-issue Nikkei average closed at 19,836.48 yen on Friday, down 63.97 points or 3 percent from a week earlier.

Under the bailout plan, the bank will cover its equity shortfall though a capital write-down and a share of new stock. Banesto's old management, led by Mario Conde, was replaced by the Bank of Spain on Dec. 28 after audits found the bank's liabilities exceeded its assets by 603 billion pesetas (\$4.4 billion).

As a result of the recapitalization plan, Banesto will have a new majority owner by May 9. Bids are expected from Banco Santander SA, Banco Bilbao Vizcaya SA and state-owned Argentaria SA.

Terms for the auction of new shares will be published next week, said Alfredo Saenz, the acting chairman.

The key issue will be the price decided by the Bank of Spain. Banks view the current market level of 800 pesetas a share as too much. They also feel the cut in nominal share value to 400 pesetas from 700 under Mr. Saenz's plan, was too generous.

But Mr. Saenz said care had to be taken not to alienate existing shareholders and foreign investors.

Mr. Saenz gave the board's backing for legal proceedings against Mr. Conde's team, based on Spanish law granting the right to demand compensation from administrators who break the law or infringe rights.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

Issue Terms To Be Set For Banesto

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MADRID — Shareholders of Banco Español de Crédito SA approved a plan to rescue the bank on Saturday and agreed to sue its former board for mismanagement.

The 225-issue Nikkei average closed at 19,836.48 yen on Friday, down 63.97 points or 3 percent from a week earlier.

Yasuo Ueki, general manager of equities operations at Nikko Securities Co., said dealers did not want to make significant moves late this week with only a week until the new fiscal year, beginning April 1.

Zurich

Shares fell slightly last week after the dollar slipped, but analysts said they expected the market to stabilize this week.

The Swiss Performance Index fell by 8.41 points, or 0.4 percent, to 2,131.31 points.

Nestlé fell by 29 Swiss francs to 1,210

despite news of a 7 percent rise in oer profit and an increase in its dividend.

Among the chemicals issues, Ciba-Geigy rose by 51 francs to 902 and Sandoz rose by 110 francs to 4,010. Banks were hit by interest rate worries.

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(Bloomberg, Reuters)

ARTE: Highbrow European TV Station Develops Ties With Blue-Chip Corporate Advertisers

Continued from Page 9

households. In addition to France, Germany and Belgium, the channel is also available in parts of Scandinavia, Portugal, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Austria, Slovakia and North Africa.

An ad campaign scheduled to begin this week in France uses the theme "My television is talented." Arte needs to make clear that

"the channel is for everybody," said Mr. Schroeder. "Making a show more popular doesn't have to entail an absence of quality."

But analysts note a danger that the station's basic demographics could be jeopardized if Arte decided that the only way to broaden its viewer base would be by diluting the intellectual content of its programs.

She said that this was far short of the 5 percent market share that Arte is aiming to achieve. At the same time, she cautioned that there was not much information available.

Among the skeptics who doubt that Arte can expand much, Caroline Olchanski, a financial analyst following media and communications industries at Dupont Denain in Paris, claimed that the French audience numbers were actually only about 1 percent rather than the 2.6 percent claimed by Arte.

She said that Arte had only a 1 percent audience, "she said.

Ms. Olchanski said the certain companies might nevertheless be interested in becoming partners if Arte could continue to deliver its upscale, decision-maker audience.

"What interests these companies is the PR opportunity," she said.

"Sponsoring a program is nothing more than a form of advertising."

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

OTC Consolidated trading for week ended Friday, March 25.

(Continued)

Stocks Div Yld 10s High Low Close Chg

GBC Bc .22 2.3 8514 124% 123% -16

GBC Tch .22 2.3 477 474 474 474 -1

GCR Fnd .22 2.3 122 122 122 122 -1

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Issue To Be Set
For Baner

MONDAY SPORTS

Shooting for the Moon, Kenyans Win All but 1 Cross Country Gold

By Ian Thomsen

International Herald Tribune

BUDAPEST — The Kenyan team manager stepped forward from the crowd and, smiling, made an exaggerated turn with his shoulders toward the flag pole. The six teenage girls saw this, and, layered shoulder behind shoulder on the victory stand, they turned as one to face the Kenyan flag as their national anthem was played.

Then Gilbert Seii shrugged the nether way, and they responded by turning back to face him. He raised his arms and they all waved their bouquets for the cameras. They smiled when he laughed. After the ceremony, through a window, they could be seen with their arms around each other, hugging him all at once.

"They are my first team, but we have so many runners," explained Seii, whose runners won all but one of the gold medals at the 22nd IAAF World Cross Country Championships on Saturday. "If I had brought my second team, all would have finished in the top 20, and we still win the team championship."

The gold medals were presented to the Kenyans as surely as if Gilbert Seii himself had wrapped them in Christmas paper the night before and laid them beneath the tree. The morning began with the six teenagers finishing among the top seven in a junior field of 143 women. The champion, in a time of 14:04, was 16-year-old Sally Barsosio, the youngest competitor ever to get a medal in a worldwide senior competition when she won the 10,000-meter bronze at the World Championships last August. And she was the only Kenyan to run these 4,300 meters in shoes.

She was followed to the podium by her compatriot, Helen Chepungo, the first African woman to win a senior race at these championships. She completed her 6,220 meters over grass, dirt, hills, bay bales and a fallen tree in 20 minutes, 45 seconds. With all their successes these days, it is a rare joy for the Kenyans to achieve something for the first time. "It's the big one for us today," said Mike Kosgei, the Kenyan coach.

Chepungo's performance presented her country with the chance of sweeping all eight of the team and individual gold medals — the least reliable of prospects, as Kenya has applied itself to women's athletics only in the last five years. Chepungo, 26 with a 4-year-old son, had not even worked her way up through the junior level. She had been a high jumper and thrown javelin, without great results, until an injury convinced her to run. Kosgei suggests that Kenyan women will achieve the international dominance of their brothers in five years.

"There are five times more women running in Kenya than there were five years ago," Seii said. "We encourage them to form women's sports commissions, and we are letting them train with the men. They go for a shorter distance, but they go running with the men. My boys have become a source of a lot of encouragement to the women. They know they are training with champions."

It is easy to cheer for the Kenyans. Seii looks

nothing like an active runner — his belly is full — but he was wearing the Kenyan track suit, and Hungarian children were constantly running up with T-shirts and posters for him to sign.

He was autographing something, or other when a shorter man in a suit and raincoat, an official of the Kenyan federation, squeezed Seii's arm and told him in their native tongue of the failure. The senior women, with no results among the top 17 after Chepungo, had failed to win the team gold medal — and not even the silver. They had finished behind Portugal and Ethiopia and they would have to accept the bronze. He broke this news as if there had just been an explosion and he was awaiting the report of casualties. He kept pulling at Seii's arm as if wanting to blame or to hug.

The official left and Seii explained their conversation. He concluded, "So now I'm a bit disappointed, brother."

This lasted the time it takes to walk from here to there. Over there, approaching the start of the junior men's 8,140 meters, he was approached by a quiet 14-year-old with a knapsack,

who explained carefully that he had traveled from Slovenia with his athletics team and that he would very much like to have a cap from Kenya. Seii patted his own bare head — he had handed not all his caps, five of them — but they began to talk and the boy offered him a candy out of a small bag and Seii said they would meet later to arrange for a cap.

"So I follow you," the boy said.

"You will follow me?" said the manager.

"Always," the boy said, and Seii burst into his big hearty laugh.

The boy did follow as Seii wandered the course, which on any other day is a horse race track. In the distance he pointed to the jockeys approaching their first lap. "They're there," he shouted. "They're there, two of them, doing exactly what we told them last night."

He explained how the Kenyans had held their strategic meetings Friday night, which is no scoop. He said two coaches were stationed in the infield, reminding each runner where he or she should be at each distance in the race. He said his athletes, most of whom had bolted to

the front, were advising each other in mid-stride.

"Today is very easy for us," Seii said. "At home we run in the rain, we run in the dust — there's an dust here — we run in the mud, we run in the hills. They run going to school, going home, going to the market, going wherever. We have so many runners I cannot tell you. In the whole team, out of 27 runners, there are only two who ran in this championship last year. All the other ones are new."

Of the 27 runners, 19 are from the Kalenjin tribe, which is just one of about 40 tribes in Kenya. According to a one census, the Kalenjins make up 11 percent of the national population — this is thought to be an exaggeration, the result of Kenya's president, Daniel arap Moi, being Kalenjin — but there is no doubt that this tribe, living more than 6,000 feet above sea level, has produced the era's most dominant group of athletes, perhaps in any sport.

Seii was asked where the coaches were positioned.

"They are in the bush!" he laughed, waving

at the bony Communist apartment blocks and industrial chimneys surrounding the green field. "Where else would you expect a Kenyan to be?"

He turned to see the runners churning past,

their shoulders and torsos and heads quite still.

"Well done, Philip, well done!" Seii shouted, clapping and laughing. "To the finish, David, to the finish!"

He took in the races like somebody watching a movie for the second time. He predicted that the defending junior champion, Philip Mosima, would overtake the leader, Daniel Komen, on the final lap — and he did, to finish in a time of 24:15, two seconds ahead of Komen. In the senior men's 12,060 meters, Seii predicted that the defending champion, William Sigel, would win a neck-and-neck race with Simon Chepungo, whose time of 34:30 indeed turned out to be a second behind Sigel's.

"Are you going to tell our secret?" Seii said much later, seated before a group of reporters. "Why not? It is done. We can tell it," Kosgei said, and he drew a series of circles, as would an

American football coach, explaining how each runner had contributed to the victory, enforcing a fast pace that took the finishing kick out of the Ethiopian, Haile Gebrselassie, who finished third in 34:32.

"This shows that you can do anything when the athletes are in shape," Kosgei said.

Gebrselassie's bronze was enough to give him the overall victory in the season's IAAF World Cross Challenge standings, cross country's equivalent of the World Cup. The leader going into the race, Kenya's Ismael Kirui, had missed the deadline for entries.

Catherine McKenna of Ireland, having finished second to Chepungo in 20:52, clinched the women's title.

By now a crowd had gathered outside the Kenyan tent just beyond the finish line. People with cameras and pads of paper appeared. A boy from Slovenia smiled beneath a cap that read KENYA, and a man unfurled a large Kenyan flag and let the wind take it. And Seii said to a reporter, "I tell you what we will do three years from now. We intend to run to the moon."



Thomas Muster beat Michael Stich, 6-4, 6-7 (8-10), 4-6, 6-3, 12-10, to put Austria even, 2-2.

Michael Letts/Reuters

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

OTC Consolidated trading for week ended Friday, March 25.
(Continued)

Stocks	DIV	Yld	Hgh	Lw	Csh	Chg	Sales	Stocks	DIV	Yld	Hgh	Lw	Csh	Chg	Sales	Stocks	DIV	Yld	Hgh	Lw	Csh	Chg	Sales	Stocks	DIV	Yld	Hgh	Lw	Csh	Chg	Sales			
NAWIP			41.135	331	135	+4	1,000	NAWIP			389	119	182	112	+36	1,000	NAWIP			2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
Nucleic	.28		113	124	124	+1	1,000	Nucleic	.27		235	214	214	214	+1	1,000	Nucleic	.27		2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
Nucleic A	.47		231	224	224	+1	1,000	Nucleic A	.47		231	224	224	224	+1	1,000	Nucleic A	.47		2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
NYCR	.43		111	124	124	+1	1,000	NYCR	.43		258	254	254	254	+1	1,000	NYCR	.43		2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
NYCR A	.16		129	129	129	+1	1,000	NYCR A	.16		258	254	254	254	+1	1,000	NYCR A	.16		2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
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OCB Co			112	121	121	+1	1,000	OCB Co			232	141	141	141	+1	1,000	OCB Co			2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
OCPT	.37		370	195	195	+1	1,000	OCPT	.37		370	195	195	195	+1	1,000	OCPT	.37		2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
ODC			164	174	174	+1	1,000	ODC			242	174	174	174	+1	1,000	ODC			2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
ODC Pn	.45		242	224	224	+1	1,000	ODC Pn	.45		242	224	224	224	+1	1,000	ODC Pn	.45		2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
ODC Inc			164	174	174	+1	1,000	ODC Inc			242	174	174	174	+1	1,000	ODC Inc			2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
OTR Ex			173	184	184	+1	1,000	OTR Ex			242	184	184	184	+1	1,000	OTR Ex			2,022	241	241	241	0	-1	1,000	VISGM			241	241	241	241	0
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MONDAY SPORTS

Schumacher Wins Prix As Senna Spins Out

The Associated Press

SAO PAULO — Michael Schumacher fought off Ayrton Senna to win the Brazilian Grand Prix on Sunday, with the Brazilian abandoning the battle after spinning out in a curve with 15 laps remaining.

Schumacher completed the 71 laps around the 4.325-kilometer (2.678-mile) Interlagos circuit in 1:35:38.759, averaging 192.6 kilometers per hour (119.7 mph) and beating Damon Hill, of England, by a full lap.

"There's nothing better than winning not by luck, but by fighting," the 25-year-old German said after earning his third Formula One victory.

Senna, the pre-race favorite in the world champion Williams-Renault car, locked himself in the team's motor home and refused to speak to reporters.

Hill carried the Williams-Renault banner to podium, standing with Jean Alesi, of France, who finished third in his Ferrari.

"I thought I could catch Senna, but it would have meant risking a fatal accident," said Alesi, turned in a strong performance despite racing in his backup car.

Brazil's Rubens Barrichello was fourth in his Jordan-Hart, with Japan's Ukyo Katayama in a Tyrrell-Yamaha fifth and Austria's Karl Wendlinger in a Sauber-Mercedes sixth.

The anticipated duel between Senna, a three-time world champion, and Schumacher, the up-and-coming wunderkind, lived up to expectations. The two dominated time trials, filling the front row.

Senna took the lead at the start, while Schumacher dropped to third on the start behind Alesi. Schumacher got past Alesi in the 21st lap and set out in pursuit of Senna. By the 19th lap, Schumacher was less than a second behind.

Two laps later, both drivers went to pits for fuel and new tires. Benetton appeared to adjust better to new rules this year requiring mid-race refueling, and sent Schumacher back on to the track first. The German driver quickly opened on Senna and put a lap on Hill.

After a second pit stop, the Brazilian began a last-ditch pursuit and cut the gap to five seconds. It ended on the 56th lap when he went into a curve too fast, spun out and abandoned the race.

As Schumacher passed the pits, a team member held out a sign reading "Senna out," and the driver relaxed.

"I thought, 'Now I can take it easy. I don't have to push the car or take any risks,'" Schumacher said.

The next race is the Pacific Grand Prix at the Aida circuit in Okayama, Japan, on April 17.

A spectacular accident nearly stopped the Brazilian race on the 34th lap.

Eddie Irvine and rookie Jos Verstappen both dived inside to pass Eric Bernard's Ligier. As they went three abreast, Irvine bumped Verstappen onto the grass. The Dutch driver spun sideways, flipped over Irvine's Jordan-Hart, and they both smashed into Martin Brundle's McLaren-Peugeot.

Brundle was hit in the head by a wheel but was not seriously hurt.

SIDELINES

French Set 2 World Swim Records

PARIS (AP) — Franck Schott of France set a world record in the 50-meter backstroke for the 25-meter pool Sunday by swimming the distance in 24.60 seconds in the short course World Cup swimming finals. The old mark was 24.66 by Russia's Alexander Popov in 1994.

Schott's teammate, Franck Esposito, broke the 200-meter butterfly world mark on Saturday with a time of 1:53.05. The old mark of 1:54.21, was set by New Zealand's Danyon Loader in 1993.

Russian Charged in Mogilny Threat

BUFFALO, New York (AP) — A Russian who helped Alexander Mogilny defect to the United States has been charged with threatening to shoot and stab the NHL Sabres wing unless he came up with \$150,000.

Mogilny told police that Sergei Pavlosky followed him from practice to a restaurant on Friday afternoon. Speaking in Russian, Pavlosky allegedly demanded \$150,000 and threatened "to shoot him in the back and stab him in the legs."

Pavlosky and another Russian were unarmed when they were arrested Saturday outside the Sabres' locker room, according to the Erie County chief of detectives, Gerald Mack.

Cowboys Have Owner-Coach Rift

DALLAS (AP) — Is the Dallas Cowboys' coach, Jimmy Johnson, mad enough at the NFL team's owner, Jerry Jones, that he'd be willing to quit?

Johnson said Saturday he will hold a news conference in a few days to announce whether he'll be back next season to try for a third straight Super Bowl title. Jones told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram he'll meet Monday with Johnson for talks that could turn into negotiations toward a contractual settlement that would allow the coach to leave the team.

The problems stem from a clash last week during which Jones reportedly threatened to fire Johnson, who has five years left on his \$1 million-a-year contract.

For the Record

Aston Villa, ending Manchester United's hope of a unique English triple, won the League Cup final, 3-1, at Wembley as Welsh international striker Dean Saunders scored twice in the final 15 minutes. (Reuters)

Akebono, the yokozuna, or grand champion, from Hawaii, defeated Akembo, the yokozuna, or grand champion, from Japan. (AP)

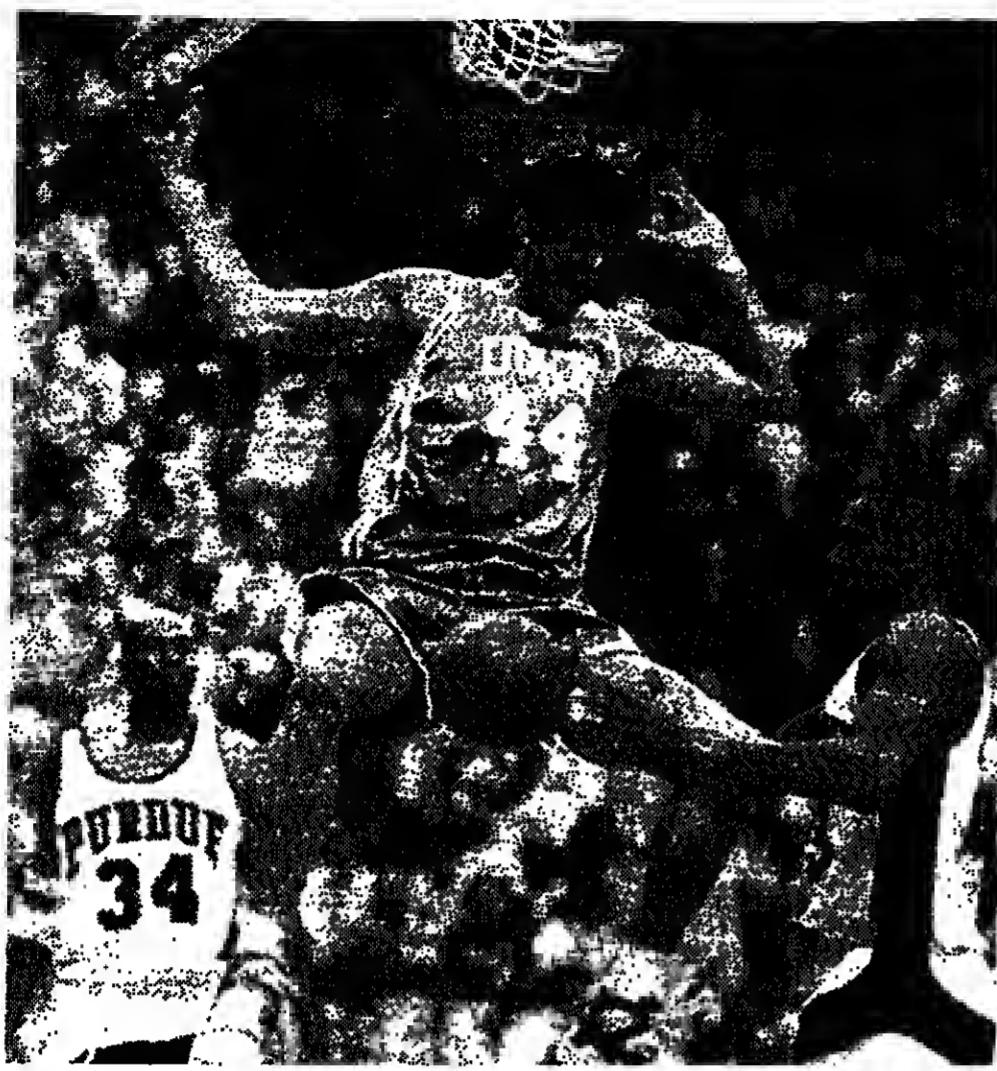
Grand Sumo Tournament in Osaka, Japan. (AP)

New Zealand, with captain Eric Rush scoring two tries, beat five-time winner Australia, 32-20, to win the Cathay Pacific-Hong Kong Bank Rugby Sevens tournament for the fourth time. (AP)

Rugby Sevens tournament, which netted him a then-record \$80,000. Babe Ruth's 1930-31 contract, which netted him a then-record \$80,000, sold for almost \$30,000 at an auction in New York. (AP)

Tony Bennett, a free agent from the Green Bay Packers who is regarded as one of the NFL's top pass-rushing outside linebackers, signed a four-year deal reportedly worth \$11 million with the Indianapolis Colts. (AP)

Head Steffie Gray withdrew from the Family Circle Cup in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, because of a torn ligament in her left knee, but said she hoped to compete in the Citizens Cup in Hamburg. (AP)



Mark Hambrey/The Associated Press

Duke Shuts Down Purdue

The Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tennessee — When the statistics show Purdue's leading scorer was Matt Waddell, you know the Boilermakers had a rough day.

Duke shut down All-American Glenn Robinson on Saturday, holding the country's leading scorer to a season-low 13 points. The Blue Devils also contained Cuonzo Martin, Purdue's second most reliable offensive weapon, limiting him to 12 points.

Waddell scored 16 points, but it wasn't enough for the Boilermakers, who lost to Duke 69-60 in the Southeast Regional final of the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament. Duke will face Florida next week at the Final Four in Charlotte, North Carolina.

"Their defense did a great job on Glenn and all our kids," said Gene Keady, the coach of Purdue. "We played good defense, but theirs was just a little bit better."

Robinson averaged 30 points a game in the regular season and was averaging 36 in the tournament. Martin was averaging 20 in the tournament and had 29 Thursday night against Kansas.

But the Blue Devils denied Robinson and Martin the ball whenever they could and harassed them relentlessly the rest of the time.

The result was a 6-for-22 shooting day for Robinson and a 5-for-14 performance by Martin.

Purdue led 27-17 in the first half. But over the next three minutes, the Boilermakers were whistled for six fouls and hit with a technical as Duke scored 11 straight points.

"We thought halfway into the first half we had a shot at taking control of the game, but that's not the way it was," Keady said.

"We had a 10-point lead and all of a sudden the bottom kind of all fall out," he said. "You'd like to get some calls go your way, but that didn't happen. You have to make something positive happen, and we didn't do that."

Keady said the foul "certainly killed whatever momentum we had. They thought they were fouls, so they called them fouls. We didn't think they were, but that's basketball for you. Life goes on."

The game was tied at halftime, but Duke scored the first seven points after intermission and the Boilermakers never caught up.

"They didn't really change anything. I just think they took it up another level and we weren't ready for it," Waddell said.

"As far as we went, though, I'm not ashamed at all," he said.

Duke's Grant Hill, who guarded Robinson most of the time, picked up his fourth foul with 9:54 left and the Blue Devils five points ahead.

Eight seconds after Hill sat down, Robinson scored a basket. But he didn't score another point during the six minutes Hill was on the bench, and Duke increased its lead to six.

"We were trying to get the ball to Glenn, but they were doing a good job keeping it away from him," Keady said. "I don't think we stayed spread like we should have and made hard cuts, because they did a good job overplaying him."

Robinson said he had hoped not to have a bad game in the tournament.

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Florida Puts Away Boston College To Advance to NCAA Final Four

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Florida is no longer just a football state.

Craig Brown hit 3-pointers on three consecutive possessions to break open a close game, and the Florida Gators earned their first trip to the NCAA Final Four by beating Boston College, 74-66, on Sunday.

The third-seeded Gators (29-7), champions of the East regional, will play Southeast regional champion Duke (27-5) in Saturday's semifinals of the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Boston College, which at No. 9 was the lowest seed remaining in the tournament, finished 23-11.

Basketball has always taken a back seat to football in Florida, partly because the Gators had made only three previous NCAA tournament appearances. Just four years ago they were 7-21, but the Gators had a partisan sellout crowd roaring Sunday at Miami Arenas.

Brown's big baskets turned a 56-53 deficit into a 62-56 lead with 3:50 remaining. The turnaround marked the 15th and final lead change.

Boston College squandered chances to close the deficit. The Eagles missed four free throws in the final 3:24 and committed three turnovers in the last minute.

Brown led Florida with 21 points. Andrew DeClerc added 16 rebounds.

Bill Curley scored 20 and Howie Easley 19 for the Eagles, who shot just 38 percent.

Gerrad Ahram's steal and breakaway dunk gave Boston College its biggest lead, 31-45, with 11:27 remaining. The Eagles scored only three field goals the rest of the way.

Florida scored the next eight points, taking a 53-51 lead on Jason Anderson's fast-break layup. Boston College tied the game at 53 on two free throws by Danya Abrams, ending a five-and-a-half-minute scoring drought.

Curley's 3-point goal gave the Eagles a 56-53 lead before Brown put Florida in front to stay.

Boston College missed 11 of 23 3-point attempts after sinking 22 3-pointers in back-to-back victories over North Carolina and Indiana. Malcolm Hackaby was 0-for-4 on

3-pointers and scored just one point, 9.5 below his average.

Huckaby was among four four-year starters who played their final game for Boston College.

Free-throw shooting kept the Eagles in the game. In the first 32 minutes they outscored the Gators 13-1 at the line.

Florida, co-champion of the Southeastern Conference, held a 35-33 halftime lead, thanks in part to 12 points from DeClerc, who quickly surpassed his season average of 8.5 per game.

The Gators and Eagles reached Sunday's regional with surprising victories over Connecticut and Indiana in Friday night's semifinals at Miami Arenas.

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Bringing the Flavor of Brazil to Japan

By Andrea Fornes

TOKYO — When Lisa Ono began to sing at the Blue Note here, the Japanese audience was not fully prepared. On stage, they saw a 31-year-old Japanese singer, guitar resting across her legs. But what they heard were sensual renditions of bossa nova melodies in flawless Portuguese.

Lisa Ono is part Brazil, where she was born, and part Japan, where she has lived since age 10. Yet, while not fully at home in either country, her music whispers lessons of the nearly negligent lifestyle of Brazil that is unobtainable in Japanese society.

"Thanks to the recession, Japanese will accept a lot from Brazilians," she said. "They have to learn how to

Tastemakers

An occasional series about people for whom style is a way of life



enjoy life, because everything here is so square and preordained. Through my music I can show them another side of life. As one of my songs says, 'My house is always open. There is beer and no luxury. But certainly nothing will be missing.'

One feels that the Japanese are becoming more receptive to things Brazilian. The stars of Japan's new professional soccer league are mostly Brazilian, and the recession has given the Japanese the task of figuring out how to spend a growing amount of free time with a declining amount of money. "Brazilian music conjures up visions of freedom," she says.

Lisa Ono was born to Japanese parents in São Paulo, the country's richest and biggest city. Like many other nice, or second-generation Japanese, she spoke Japanese at home and Portuguese everywhere else. One doesn't remember why the family emigrated. "Perhaps it was because Brazil was the only country open to immigrants at the time. My father also might have wanted to discover a different world."

In the 1960s, her father, Toshiro Ono, owned a bossa nova and jazz spot called Ichiran, or "number one" in Japanese. When Lisa was 3 years old, he began to take her to rehearsals at the club. Several years later, she realized that instead of studying piano she would rather become a singer.

She moved with her family back to Japan in 1972. Her father opened Saci Perere, a traditional Brazilian restaurant with live music, which remains a popular hangout in the busy Yotsuya district. Ono, who had kept up her Portuguese by listening and singing Brazilian songs, made her vocal debut there when she was 15.

"I was accepted at Saci Perere because it was a typical restaurant where people expected to eat Brazilian food and hear Brazilian music," she says. Exposure at the restaurant led to gigs at jazz clubs, but often she was asked to sing in English.

"The owners said they preferred 'authentic' Portuguese from a Brazilian. They didn't consider me one." Ono describes herself as half Japanese and half Brazilian, switching between the two extremes according to the audience.

To market herself better in Japan, Ono took the advice of her husband, Hélio Celso Suarez, and focused her



Lisa Ono says Japanese "have to learn how to enjoy life, because everything here is so square and preordained."

repertoire on the most obvious bossa nova tunes such as "Garota de Ipanema," "Manhã de Carnaval" and "Samba de Uma Noite Soa." Her performances also included old sambas, popular Brazilian songs and a growing number of her own compositions.

Her big break came in 1989, when she released her first single, "You're So Unique." Her first album, "Catupiry," came out a few months later. She also was featured singing in a wine commercial on television. Since then, Ono has released six CDs in Japan. Two of them, "Nana" and "Menina," won Japan's Gold Disk Award in the jazz and fusion category. She also is coordinating a series of recordings for release here by Brazilian stars, including Carlos Lyra and the Quarteto Em Cy.

Ono has never considered trying to make a name for herself in Brazil. Comfortably established in Japan, she has had little desire to struggle anew in her native country, where few artists survive without an outside source of income.

Yet she travels to Brazil whenever she records. "If I'm

making Brazilian music I must go there to do research and work with Brazilian musicians." She is in Brazil now, recording her next CD, which will be released in Japan this June on BMG. Her first Brazilian release, a compilation, is due out next month.

"Brazilians don't listen to their own music anymore. Instead, it's consumed abroad," she said, adding that there were but a handful of female vocalists interpreting bossa nova as Astrud Gilberto and the late Nara Lédo did until several years ago. Last year, she expanded her audience with a performance at the Ballroom in New York, although half the crowd was Japanese.

The Japanese listening to her at the Blue Note may be more receptive to bossa nova than Brazilians, but here Ono must explain the lyrics in Japanese before singing. She also has to take pains to instruct them to slow down and enter the music's mood.

Andrea Fornes is a Tokyo-based journalist.

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WEATHER

Europe

Forecast for Tuesday through Thursday, as provided by Accu-Weather.



North America

There will be some showers from Boston to Washington, D.C., through Friday. Wednesday and Thursday will be rather cool for the season.

Cloudy with limited sun and light winds. Northern France will be cool through Tuesday. In Chicago, Denver and Toronto, rather mild much of the week in Seattle and Vancouver.

Middle East

Bouts of stormy weather will hit Israel, the U.K., Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia. Wednesday rains will alternate with limited sun and light winds. Northern France will be cool through Tuesday. In Seattle, the south and west will have little rain through Thursday.

Latin America

Most of the time, Sun will warm Southwest Europe most of the time.

Asia

Showers may wet South China as well as Taiwan and Hong Kong at any time. In Shanghai, temperatures should hold off til late Wednesday.

Beijing and Seoul will be set off with cool nights. Wind will be cool morning in Japan Tuesday. The south and west will have little rain through Thursday.

Africa

Mostly dry with limited sun and light winds. Wind will be cool morning in Japan Tuesday.

North America

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South America

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Latin America

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